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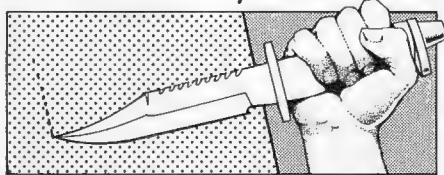
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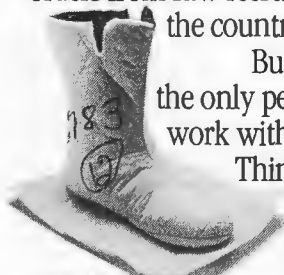


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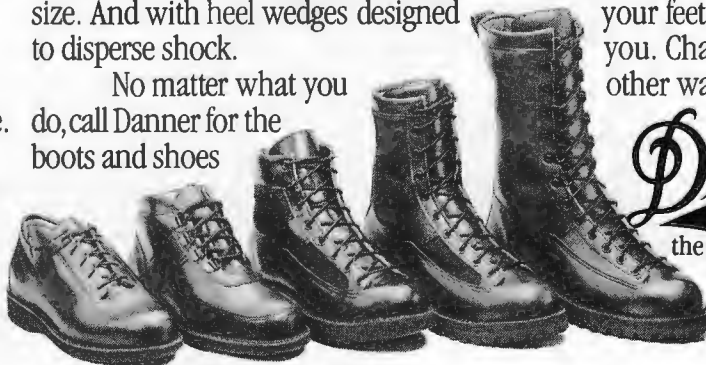
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### In Memoriam

Craig Nunn — Art Director  
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The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (BATF) has published, in the *Federal Register* for August 16, 1993, a "Notice of Proposed Rule-making" with respect to a proposed rule that would exempt the Treasury Department in general and the Waco Administrative Review Group in particular from requirement to disclose information, as provided at 5 U.S.C. 552a.

According to the 12-page "notice," the mission of the Waco Administrative Review Group was established "... to conduct a comprehensive investigation of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (BATF) including whether BATF procedures, policies and practices were adequate and whether they were followed." The review group will collect information obtained during the investigation of individuals involved in the raid and make this available to law enforcement agencies.

Among the reasons given for exempting their records:

- Disclosure of the records would enable individuals (who are subjects of the investigation) to avoid detection and apprehension by destroying or altering records.
- Disclosure of the records would disclose the identity of confidential sources and endanger their physical safety by exposing them to reprisals.
- Disclosure of the categories of information might reveal sources which could result in reprisals.
- Disclosure of the purposes of the investigation, and the use to which the information might be put would enable criminal individuals to hide or withhold evidence.
- Disclosure of information might endanger lives of undercover officers through reprisals.
- Providing a confidential source with written evidence that he or she

was a source could increase the likelihood that the source of the information would be subject to retaliation by the subject of the investigation.

It appears from the wording of this notice that either there is a genuine criminal investigation of BATF, or the exemptions being sought are subterfuge by Treasury to avoid disclosure of the criminal actions of its agents.

If we assume that the author of the proposed rule-making, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement Ron Noble, is sincere and BATF agents are being investigated for possible criminal indictment for the events in Waco, and if Treasury is sincere in its reasons for exempting the records from disclosure, then it follows that Treasury believes that BATF agents 1) could reasonably be expected to harm any person who provides information as to criminal behavior by a particular BATF agent, or 2) would hide, or alter evidence of criminal behavior.

Frankly, this assessment is realistic and consistent with what we know about BATF agents. Ask John Lawmaster. And this raises questions like: When can we expect indictments of the agents who committed criminal acts during the raid?

Given the zeal with which the agency pursues civilians on the basis of unsubstantiated rumors, and given the explicit concern about the safety of individuals who provide information to the Waco Administrative Review Group, what measures are being taken by Treasury to protect the public from agents who are believed capable of violent criminal acts and are known to be (at public expense) armed?

The only other conclusion one could draw from this notice is that

*Continued on page 72*

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Photo: DoD

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Photo: Patrick Chauvel





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Specialized training for foreign troops is among many vital missions performed by America's special operations forces. Here a Coalition soldier from Qatar takes part in MOUT (Military Operations in Urban Terrain) exercise under SpecOps direction during Operation Desert Shield. See article on page 30. Photo: DoD

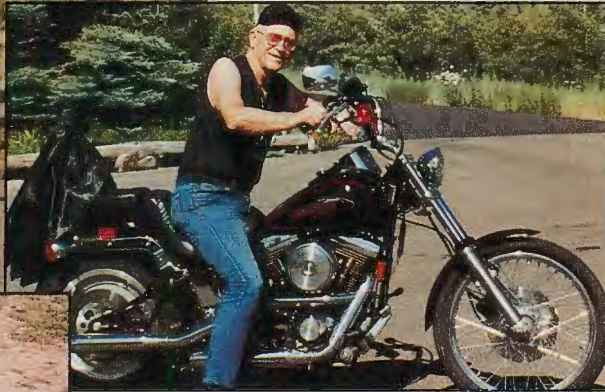


Body Snatchers — page 48

Photo: Mark H. Milstein



# BULLETIN BOARD



**SOF's fearless leader R. K. Brown** does his James Dean thing on frequent contributor Neil Livingstone's Harley Softail Custom in Sun Valley; preferring to go fast (*really fast!*) rather than loud, Executive Editor Tom Slizewski runs a few laps on his pride and joy ZX-10; meanwhile, *SOF* author, after-hours building security and consulting geologist, Chuck Fremont, spends his time playing in the dirt.



## GEN. MATTHEW B. RIDGWAY 1895 - 1993

General Matthew B. Ridgway, 82nd Airborne Division commander during World War II, made manifest call with the Great Jumpmaster in the Sky on 26 July 1993. He was 98.

Ridgway was a soldier's soldier. He turned the "straightleg" 82nd Infantry Division into an elite airborne unit in 1942, and on D-Day, 6 June 1944, he made the night combat jump into Normandy with his "All-American" division.

In Korea, Ridgway took charge of a routed Eighth Army during the winter war of 1950-51 and drove the communist forces back across the 38th parallel. After Korea, he served as army chief of staff but

clashed with politicians and retired early, as have other strong soldiers.

But even in retirement, Ridgway remained a firm voice in favor of a strong military and was always outspoken in support of the airborne. During the Carter years, the Pentagon tried to do away with the maroon beret, and Ridgway campaigned against this affront to U.S. paratroopers.

All the way, General!  
—Chuck Fremont

## FEENEY BUSTS OUT OF THE BIG HOUSE

Don Feeney and Jon Gestur Olafasson escaped from Litla-hraun Prison 13-14 August between 2000 Friday and 0400 Saturday. Outside, the pair caught a cab to Reykjavik airport where each took separate flights to the Westward Islands. There they chartered a flight to the Faeroe Islands, a reef of 18 islands between Iceland and the Shetland Islands off the coast of Scotland. They paid \$3,000 (U.S.)

to charter the flight, but the flight was fogged-in and they were captured about 0500 Saturday. When captured, Feeney had ID, currency and credit cards, which leads authorities to believe they had help outside of the prison (good thinking, guys). Olafasson was serving several sentences, mostly for aggravated assault.

Iceland's prison administrator, Harald Johannessen, had warned the warden of Litla-hraun Prison in April he had a tip that Feeney would attempt an escape (they read *SOF*). Currently Feeney and

Olafasson are being held in a high security prison in Reykjavik.

Feeney was to be considered for parole in October. James Brian Grayson, who was originally arrested with Feeney, was released in May. Stay tuned.

## SOF SWEEPSTAKES WINNER

Winner of the May *SOF* sweepstakes was William Morgan of Pottsville, Pennsylvania. Morgan was the lucky recipient of an Olympic Arms .45 ACP Carry-Comp Hybrid pistol. (See page 18 on how you can be a winner.)

## DO AS WE SAY ... ETC.

In the aftermath of the San Francisco law firm shootings, U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., made impassioned pleas on the floor of the Senate for a national ban on "assault guns" (you know, not the ones used in assaults — the ones with *big clips* [sic]). *Meanwhile* ... heh, heh ... an employee of Boxer's San Francisco office, one Roger Calderon, 33, was competing with Boxer for sound bites and newsprint after being arrested at the San Francisco International Airport with a pistol and a 15-round magazine of ammo ... which has him facing





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### BATTLE BLADES

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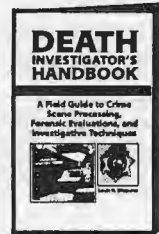
SF veteran Greg Walker takes the guesswork out of combat blades in this thorough evaluation of daggers, switchblades, utilities, bowies and hideouts. He examines legendary blades from Randall, Gerber and Al Mar, as well as the latest from up-and-coming makers. Includes selection, carry, use, care, legalities and more. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, photos, illus., 168 pp. **\$30.00**



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felony charges of possessing a firearm with a previous conviction (he received a 24-month suspended sentence on a 1984 conviction on charges of possession of a loaded handgun).

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**ATF PURGE: WHO'S ON THE HIT LIST**

Ronald K. Noble, assistant treasury secretary for law enforcement, held a series of private meetings in August with top ATF (a division of the Treasury Department) brass to probe who is responsible for the Waco fiasco.

ATF's two top law enforcement officials, Daniel M. Hartnett and



Edward D. Conroy, both took legal counsel to the meetings and have allegedly talked of retirement, though no formal papers have been filed as of this writing.

Though the Treasury Department would not officially comment on the meetings, a mid-August *Washington Post* article quoting "bureau sources" implied that Phillip Chojnacki, commander of the operation, Pete Mastin, deputy commander of the operation, Ivan

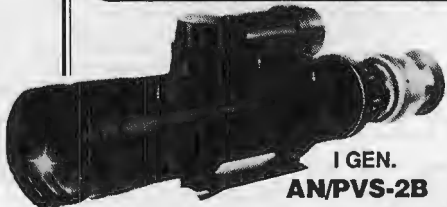
Kallister, adviser to the commander, Jim Cavanaugh, deputy assistant commander, Chuck Sarabyn, tactical coordinator and Darrel Dyer, support coordinator, were all under intense scrutiny. Noble said that Chojnacki should consider retirement and Sarabyn could face demotion.

In addition to Hartnett, Conroy and the field commanders, David

*Continued on page 14*

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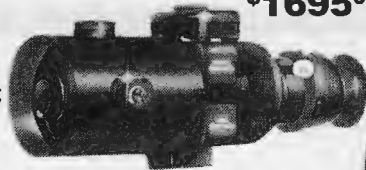
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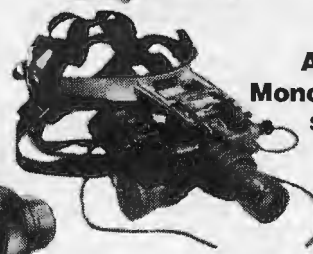
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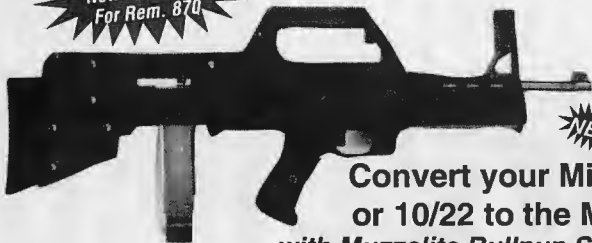
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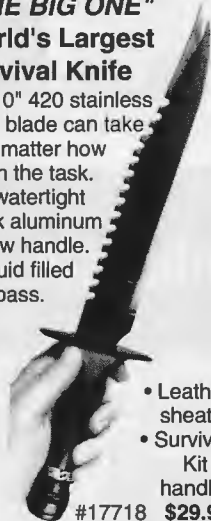
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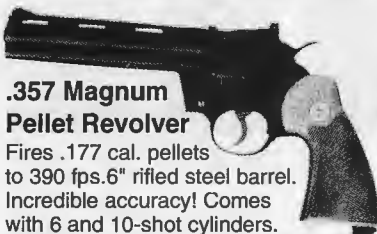
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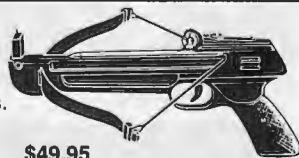
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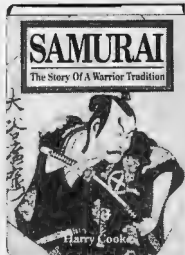
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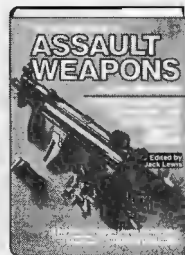
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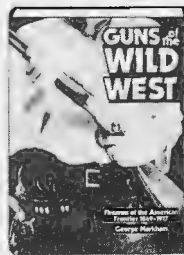
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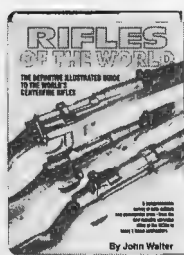
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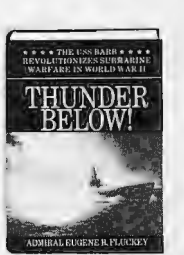
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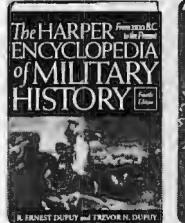
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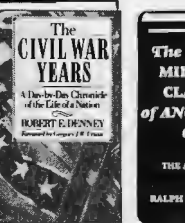
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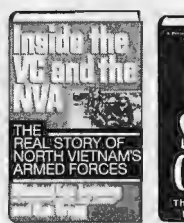
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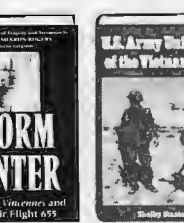
3020 \$24.95



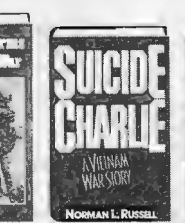
3830 \$29.95



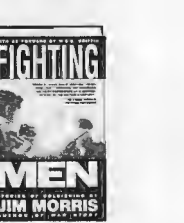
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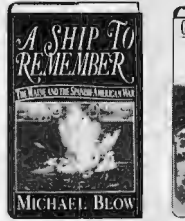
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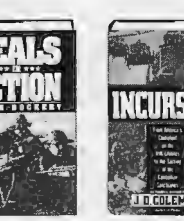
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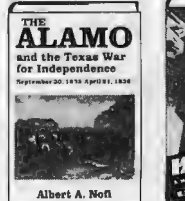


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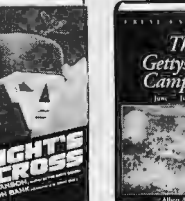


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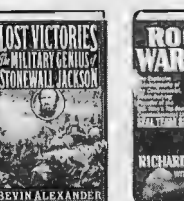
4085 \$18.95



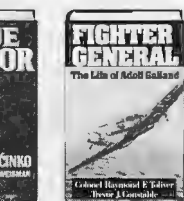
3251++ \$19.95



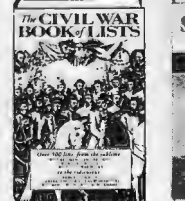
3046 \$19.95



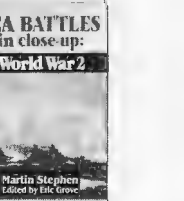
7989 \$29.95



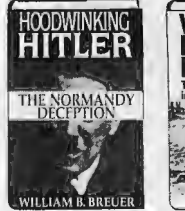
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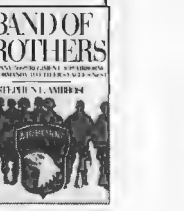
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SOF 11/93



# SLICK WILLIE WATCH



## NONE SO BLIND ...

Remember when somebody handed Dan Quayle an RPG and the press got shots of him awkwardly holding it backwards and identifying it as a flamethrower? Welllll, they missed this one: While at the DMZ in Korea being seen with the troops, the president looked through his binoculars toward the North Koreans for about 15 minutes, commenting on how important Korea is and how much he appreciated what the GIs do in that dangerous place. After scanning the area in front of the media's cameras, one of the president's military aides couldn't take it anymore, and showed the president how to remove the lens caps from the binoculars. (This ain't no joke.)

## THIS IS A JOKE:

Opening game of the baseball season, and the president was in attendance and expected to follow the traditional opening-day rituals. On cue, the president picked up Hillary and gave her a heave onto the field, whereupon a Secret Service agent whispered to him, "the first *pitch*, sir, the first *pitch*."

## NOT A JOKE:

One Ron Kiczenski of Paso Robles, California, sent a 1/4-pound package of marijuana to President Clinton, wrapped in hemp cloth, and enclosed a note written on hemp paper. His reply from the White House said, "Thanks so much for writing. I welcome your thoughts and promise they will be carefully considered. I appreciate your taking the time to let me know how you feel."

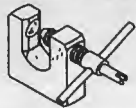
Kiczenski is a proponent of legalizing marijuana cultivation for its fiber, and hoped to get arrested to bring attention to his cause. He contacted the DEA and Secret

Service and ratted on himself, but it would appear they have fatter fish to fry, as at this writing he has not been arrested. Either that, or they couldn't make a case because somebody in the Oval Office smoked the evidence (but didn't inhale).

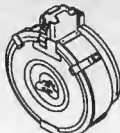
## WHAT TOOK THEM SO LONG ...

Yes, there is [at least] one movement afoot to impeach President Clinton. The "Impeach Clinton Campaign 1993" hopes to get 20 million or so signatures on petitions, which they plan to send to Congress to goad them into initiating impeachment proceedings. We wish them luck. We might wait until mid-term elections create a more favorable balance on Capitol Hill, but in the meantime you'll probably want to at least get an Impeach Clinton T-shirt. Contact Michael K. Benn, Impeach Clinton 1993, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 671054, Dallas, Texas 75367; phone: 214-739-9000; fax: 214-739-2163.✕

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**AK COMMANDO 75RD DRUM** 7.62 x 39mm cal. These are the same drums used by assault teams world-wide. Also fits Valmet, Maddi, Hungarian, etc. (#G2000) \$109.95



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**SKS DETACHABLE\* 30 RD MAGS** looks just like the AK mag. No modifications required for the weapon. (#G2092) \$29.95



\*Detachable SKS mags are sold only for replacement on SKS's using detachable mags prior to 11/90 ser. 922(F).

**Get yours before these are banned!**

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**AK CHEST POUCH** Holds six 30-round AK magazines, plus for small pouches for stripper clips, cleaning kit, etc. (#G1619) \$17.95



**SKS MAXI BREAK** provides excellent muzzle control, reduces flash and cuts recoil. (#G2055) \$34.95

**AK RECOIL COMPENSATOR** Based on the original Kalashnikov design, but made in the USA (#G2005) \$29.95



Exact copy of Russian Unit

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**AK SPEED LOADER** original Chinese (#G2001) \$8.95



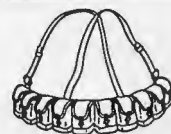
**SKS PISTOL GRIP** makes your SKS look and feel like the AK47. (#G2019) \$23.50

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**AK VERTICAL FOREARM** offers more control and less heat buildup. Works on all Norinco or Polytech AKS with folding or wood stocks. Sturdy one-piece construction. (#G2039) \$24.95

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Continued from page 8

Troy, chief of the bureau's intelligence division, is also under fire. According to the *Post* article, "Noble told Troy that his integrity had been cast in doubt by the Waco tragedy, that Troy knew the element of surprise had been lost but failed to acknowledge that in his public statements and that Troy had a good career but that future promotions were unlikely." Sources close to Troy claim that he continued to make public comments about the Waco operation that could be considered misleading because *he was only following orders.*

Where have we heard that before?

### **HIGH-TECH DOBERMANS, SPY GIZMOS, TOYS**

The Counter Spy Shop, founded 40 years ago in London by retired MI types, has moved to the States and gone over-the-counter. Buying visits were formerly by appointment only, but the company has opened a walk-in storefront in Beverly Hills, with additional stores planned for New York and Washington, D.C. Annual sales of security devices from cameras to alarms and active-defense items are about \$56 million, and climbing, due to increased terrorism, industrial espionage — and everyday crime in the streets.

In addition, there is a considerable market from those of us who used to read every page in the old Johnson-Smith catalog, grew up and now have the bucks for nicer toys. The Beverly Hills store has also discovered a "times-like-these" market such as: teenagers who buy motion detectors to know when mom is coming up the stairs, anticar-jacking devices in response to the recent scare in Southern California — and inner-city high school students who are buying bullet-proof vests.

### **HANOI HOT RODS**

The Mekong Corp., a Vietnam car manufacturer, has announced plans to open up a second plant in Hanoi, because they believe the

demand for their cars will soar after the United States drops the trade embargo. You read it here first.

In the meantime, California State Sen. Phil Wyman has introduced California Senate Joint Resolution No. 25, which would send a memorandum to the president and U.S. Congress demanding a *full* POW/MIA accounting from the government of Vietnam, refusing normalization until the accounting is provided.

Don't order your Uncle Ho-mobile yet: They might not be legal in California.

### **BOMBERS-FOR-BAMBI 0, BIOLOGISTS 5**

A federal grand jury has issued a five-count indictment in the case of arson and vandalism that destroyed decades of research and caused more than \$200,000 in damage at the Michigan State University mink research facilities in February, 1992 (See "Bombing For Bambi," *SOF* April '93). The alleged perpetrator, under indictment but still at large, is one Rodney Adam Coronado, 27 (aka Jim Perez, James A. Perez, James Corrigan, Frank Garcia). Coronado is the self-proclaimed founder of a group called "Coalition Against Fur Farms" (CAFF).

Investigators from the Michigan State University Police, FBI, and BATF got a break when Coronado sent a Federal Express package to a Maryland address using a bogus account number. The parcel was intercepted and was found to contain stolen research material from the MSU break-in and arson.

### **GI INSURANCE DIVIDEND HOAX**

Notices have appeared in various publications recently, stating that "a bill was recently passed by Congress entitling veterans to [a] dividend on their GI insurance they had while they were in the service" and that former or current veterans were eligible, whether they still had the insurance or not. A "general schedule of dividends earned" listed two years of service @ \$264, three years of service @ \$528, etc. Applicants were advised to submit copies of their DD 214 and a great deal of

personal information to a postal box in Philadelphia.

Ms. Myra Kennedy of the VA inspector general's office in Washington told *SOF* these "announcements" or "ads" are a complete hoax. We do not know just what the motive is here — chuckles or churlishness or ill-gotten gain — but, *beware.*

### **MONTAGNARD MAINTENANCE**

After carrying on the fight against the communist Vietnamese government for the past 17 years until last spring, many brave Montagnards have finally been relocated from the jungles of Cambodia to the United States (See "The Longest Yards," *SOF* July '93.). They need — and as staunch allies deserve — our help: money (*every penny* donated goes to the Montagnards — none is used by the agency listed below); vehicles (especially vans) to get to English lessons, medical facilities, etc.; household items; personal items (including clothing in smaller sizes); and anything *your family* would need if starting housekeeping from scratch.

Donations of money or goods for the Montagnards may be sent to:

Montagnard Project  
Lutheran Family Services  
131 Manley Ave.  
P.O. Box 13147  
Greensboro, NC 27415

### **NYT AGREES WITH SOF**

As we go to press, an editorial in the 2 September 1993 edition of *The New York Times* demanded, as has *SOF* for some time, the sacking of BATF Director Stephen E. Higgins. The *Times* noted Higgins "made so many mistakes in the raid on the Branch Davidian cult near Waco, Texas, that merely to list them seems like cruel and unusual punishment" and cited the soon-to-be-released Treasury investigation report that provides "shocking glimpses of incompetence" and reveals troubling evidence that Higgins "consistently misled the public and possibly his superiors."

That's true. But it's not news. You read it here first. ✕





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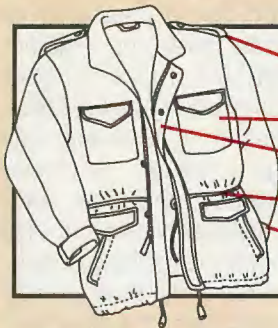
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# I WAS THERE

## A Wing And A Prayer

by Joe Ricciardi

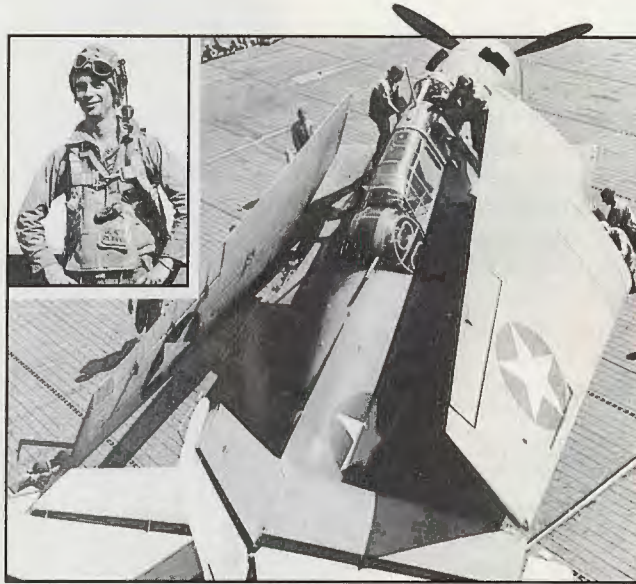
**Fixed-wing** flight requires fixed wings and power. You are in dire trouble if your wing collapses or your engine quits.

Because space is critical on aircraft carriers, navies tend to use planes with either fold-back wings (like a bird) or fold-up wings (like a counter section that lifts up). Both types work, save space and allow carriers to operate with many planes.

Also unique to carrier-based flight are landing cables and landing hooks. Because of the short landing runway, carriers have slightly raised steel cables strung across the aft section of the flight deck. Planes carry a retractable steel hook in the tail, which looks similar to a curved-handle walking cane, that extends from the plane as it prepares to land. The hook must grab one of the cables as the plane lands, which gradually but quickly arrests the plane's forward motion. If one cable is missed, several more are available.

It was early February 1945, 0430 hours. Our three-man crew was readying for dawn catapult takeoff in our TBM Avenger, which had fold-back wings. The ship was the *U.S.S. Wake Island*, CVE 65, a jeep carrier. Our mission: dive-bombing runs on Japan's island stronghold — Iwo Jima's fortifications and caves.

As with all flights, the deck was an arena of coordinated activity. Amid the orchestrated, non-vocal, noise-intensive movement of people and planes, props spun dangerously. It was a sight to behold. On the dark deck, one could hear the wrath of starting engines; first coughing, then roaring as both ground and flight crews hovered and hurried in-and-around the aircraft. Planes began taxiing to their catapult takeoff line positions.



Wings on the TBM/TBF Avenger folded for storage, and locked — hopefully — for flight. Inset: Author in flight gear on *U.S.S. Wake Island*: Errant deck crewman nearly saw business end of author's .38 revolver (left side LBE) for failing to ensure wing was locked. Photos: courtesy author

Taxiing forward and clear of other planes, our pilot, Ed, engaged the mechanism to unfold and extend our wings. This done, we took our position in line. To overcome roaring, revving engines, communication was accomplished by hand signals, lip reading or sometimes head-to-head shouting.

Per chance that morning, while watching through dim port windows as our wings unfolded, I noticed the absence of the left wing's "lock tab." The lock tab was a small, red metal tab that stuck up out of the wing at the fold joint when the wing was fully extended and locked in place. It worked like a car door lock, but in reverse — tabs-up meant that each wing was locked in position. My attempts to visually locate the red safety tab on the port wing were unsuccessful: The starboard wing tab was up and visible, but the port wing tab was not in view.

Maybe, I thought, it's because of the darkness and poor visibility. To be sure, I caught the attention of

our ground crewman and asked him via hand signals and lip miming to check the port wing and the lock tab. He turned and went over to the wing, looked it over, hand-swept part of the wing, and returned to the window port with his thumb up, nodding several times then mimed, "OK." Relieved, I turned back around, fastened my seat belt and got set for our shoot.

In minutes we were airborne and circling to form up with the other TBMs for departure to our objective. While waiting for the sixth plane to complete our group, my mind went back to the little red tab: I was bothered by not having seen it. En route to our target, as rays of daylight broke over the Pacific, visibility improved. I took a better look. Not believing my eyes, I took a second and third look and still saw nothing — *no tab*. But now, more importantly, the port wing didn't look perpendicular to the fuselage; it looked slightly crooked.

Since we were still flying, I was not yet alarmed. Using the intercom, I related my observation to our pilot. He had a closer, higher and more lateral view from which to make a better judgment. In a few seconds he confirmed that the red safety tab was not in view and yes, the wing was slightly ajar and not at the correct 90-degree angle. He

*Continued on page 21*



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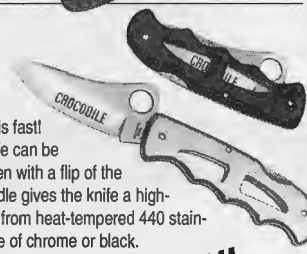
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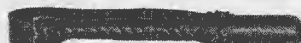
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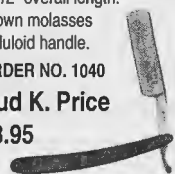
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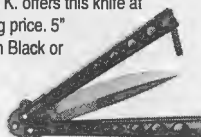


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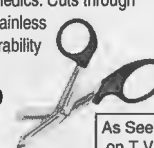
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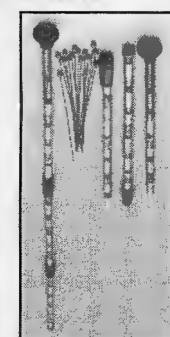
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DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED



Continued from page 16

immediately contacted our ship, explained our dilemma and requested an emergency landing.

Periodically, each of us would glance at the wing. *Would it hold up?* It drew our eyes like a magnet. Within minutes, the carrier radioed back. Instructions were to leave the formation, fly to an isolated spot, harmlessly drop our bomb load of four 500-pounders and return to the fleet.

We were to circle, at a safe distance, near our carrier until they were ready to take us aboard. This would happen, they said, when the flights returned from the strike. We would be first aboard after any planes that had wounded. No other exchanges were made regarding condition or safety. We were stunned and silent. *Had they written us off?* Our immediate need to come down was put off. The decision, in retrospect, was correct: One plane was expendable for the benefit of the whole. If the fleet had maneuvered into the wind (requiring a change of course) and set up to take us aboard, they might have missed the rendezvous with the mission's returning flights.

In our plane, three minds raced with varied ominous thoughts. *Why hasn't the wing collapsed? Will it? If it did, we knew bailing out of a one-wing spin would be impossible. How long will it last at that awkward angle? Can we hang in there, waiting for the returnees? Maybe we'll stay airborne and land safely.* Along with fear, anger now crept into my mind, recalling before takeoff the ground crewman that I had specifically signaled to check the port wing. *Why hadn't that lazy bum done his job properly?* The more I thought, the madder I got. I picked up the mike and related to our pilot what had taken place on deck. I followed by saying, "If we ever get down, I'm going to shoot that bastard!"

Time passed with agonizing slowness as we circled off to the side of our steaming carrier. Each of us worried and silently prayed. Calm fear prevailed. We were still flying. Intercom talk was low; no one said much. Finally, after four hours, bombers and fighters began

Continued on page 67

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# WORLD SITREP

1

## United States

Explosion of Titan IV rocket over Pacific destroys "secret" payload — \$800 million worth of spy-satellite equipment — erasing most savings Congress gained through deletions to 1993 intelligence budget ...

Navy assessing whether two Seawolf submarines can carry reinforced 60-Marine platoon on stealth missions to hostile coasts; once launched, Seawolves will be America's most silent and maneuverable subs ...

2

## United Kingdom

Britain plans to cut SAS elite SpecOps forces by one-third due to budget cuts, to include most "boat" units and about half of 600 part-time personnel ...

New report issued by MI5 intelligence agency reveals more than half its 2,000 employees are women ...

5

## Georgia

Senior CIA officer Fred Woodruff killed in highway ambush. Speculation that police or soldiers fired on Georgian security car after it failed to halt for checkpoints; three questioned. Woodruff cited as coordinator of security and counterterrorism training for former Soviet republic. CIA Director R. James Woolsey flies to Tbilisi to retrieve body ...

6

## Moldova

Following Azerbaijan's lead, Moldovan parliament rejects membership in Commonwealth of Independent States, becoming second former Soviet republic to do so — annual inflation rate now around 2,000% ...

1

10

## Iraq

Saddam abandoning effort at better relations with U.S., says America's "continuous declarations of war" against Iraq and concurrent moves against Iran show "political fanaticism and racial madness" ...

Some 460 Iraqi deserters from Desert Storm returned by Iran ...

9

## Lebanon

Some 500,000 refugees flee toward Beirut to escape heavy shelling as Israeli troops push northward into "security zone" during week-long "Operation Accountability" mini-war to flush out Party of God Hezbollah militia. Lebanese troops react by occupying some 70 villages in security zone ...

Israeli boats shell Tripoli, blockade Tyre and Sidon to halt weapons transport for Muslim fighters. Hezbollah fires Katyusha rockets into buffer zone and Israel itself — Syria brokers ceasefire after Israelis expend 20,000 artillery shells, kill 100 Lebanese and wound 400; town of Jibsheit, headquarters for Hezbollah, effectively destroyed ...

14

## India

Despite threatened U.S. sanctions, India will go ahead with \$250 million purchase of Russian rocket engines; under U.S. pressure, Russia backed down from transferring rocket-engine manufacturing technology to India ...

13

## Tadzhikistan

Firefight between Tadzhik rebels and Russian soldiers ends after 24 hours with 20 Russians killed; battle initiates week-long fight, destroys village of Sarigor. Incident triggered as Russians bar Tadzhiks from crossing north over Afghan border. Yeltsin fires border-guard commander; more Russian troops pour into region while rebel leaders call for holy war against communists ...

17

## Germany

Six members of Topaz spy ring arrested. Topaz believed to be the most extensive network of Soviet "moles" inside NATO and is thought to have transmitted upwards of 10,000 documents to the Soviet Union between 1979 and 1990 ...

18

## Sweden

Air show crash of new JAS-39 Gripen advanced fighter, the second to go down this year, dooms any chance of export sales ...



3

### Bosnia-Herzegovina

Iran complains of U.N. ignoring Iranian offer of troops for peacekeeping mission in Bosnia; Serbs say any U.N. troops from Muslim nations will be seen as "aggressors" and come under immediate fire ...

French U.N. compound hit by 68 shells in one 45-minute period — U.N. condemns bombardment; troops vow to fire back in future ...

4

### Russia

Horsemen gun down motorcade, assassinate military governor Viktor Polyanchko in North Ossetia and Ingushetia, an unstable region of Caucasus; bodyguard also killed, three wounded ...

In 1992 Russians finalized chemical weapons program begun under Soviets, producing nerve gas called Novichok-5 (eight times as terminal as VX — of which one drop kills humans) along with extra-deadly Novichok-9 ...

Despite "sensational stories" to the contrary, CIA Director R. James Woolsey testifies to U.S. House subcommittee that Agency detects no sales or transfers of nuclear weaponry from former Soviets to other nations ...

7

### Sudan

U.S. State Department alarmed at Iran's influence in Sudan — more than \$23 million in Iranian "aid" used to set up military bases and training camps instructing Muslim terrorists to spur on fundamentalist uprising in Egypt; in southern regions, relief supplies often given to Christians only if they convert to Islam ...

Sudan added to U.S. list of outlaw nations supporting terrorists; country no longer able to buy U.S.-made arms or receive U.S. military aid...

Rumor has it that Western mercenaries with special forces backgrounds are being sought at \$8,000 U.S. per month ...

8

### South Africa

Violence sweeps black townships east of Johannesburg; more than 100 killed and government security forces attacked by rioters. White separatist Conservative Party calls for emergency military response. Anglican Archbishop Tutu requests foreign peacekeeper intervention; first multiracial elections still planned for April ...

12

### Afghanistan

CIA launches \$55 million program to buy back some 300 Stinger antiaircraft missiles in hands of Afghan muj ...

At least 300 Afghans killed or wounded recently by Russian artillery directed over country's northern border at Tadjik rebel positions; Afghan leaders pledge to deal with Tadjiks if Russians will pull back troops from border region ...

### Iran

Analysts suspect Iran supplies Hezbollah militants with arms through Syria not only to destroy Israel, but also to promote instability throughout Mideast and hike oil prices ...

Eight anti-ship cruise missiles purchased from Ukraine; negotiations underway on buying combloc fighters and tanks ...

Iranian bombers strike Kurdish rebel camps in northern Iraq; Saddam's government sends "strong note of protest" in response ...

15

### Pakistan

Successful test of Pakistani nuclear device possibly used for weapons was held as far back as 1987 — assuring valid deterrent against India, retired Pakistani army general tells Urdu-language paper; U.S. cut off military-economic aid in 1990 due to suspected nuclear weapons production ...

16

### Cambodia

Despite congressional ban on any U.S. aid reaching Khmer Rouge, Clinton administration may seek to assist government, including communists, if guerrillas disarm and adhere to U.N. peace plan; Khmer Rouge vow to resume civil war unless given at least an advisory role in Prince Sihanouk's government ...

Largest U.N. deployment ever shutting down — 22,000 peacekeepers to be out by November, leaving Cambodia on its own for first time in 15 years since Vietnamese invasion. Compared with letdowns in Bosnia, Somalia and Angola, U.N. mission was relative success, with 350,000 refugees repatriated ...



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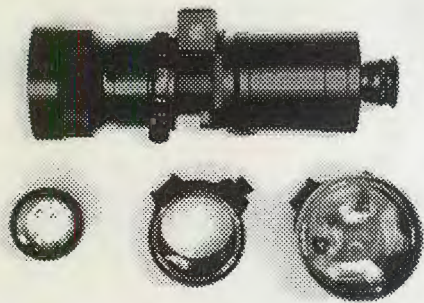
out of Stalag 19, but will pry wheel covers and paint-can lids all day).

Clever is sometimes just cute, and of course the Micro Toolclip *is* cute and comes in black, green, red and yellow — but it's not *just* cute: It's robustly designed, ergonomically engineered and everything on it does its job very well. It's only 3 3/4-inches long by 1-inch wide and 1/2-inch thick: You'll never know you

have it with you ... until you need it, and then you'll be glad you do. Unnoticeable in your pocket, it has a handy belt clip if you prefer. Weighs 3 ounces, made from 400-series stainless steel, with steel-reinforced Zytel handles. See it at your favorite dealer, or contact SOG, Dept. SOF, Box 1024, Edmonds, WA 98020; phone: 206-771-6230; fax: 206-771-7689.

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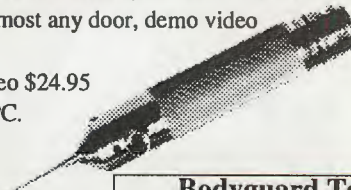
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Mike Fagras at Shiloh Creek also has a specialty black powder solvent and a top-quality naphthenic lubricant gun oil. A 4-ounce bottle of SCBS is \$5.95; 8 ounces of his black powder solvent are \$5.50, and a 2-ounce bottle of the gun oil is \$3.50. Shipping and handling on orders under \$30 cost \$3. Contact Shiloh Creek Inc., Dept. SOF, Box 357, Cottleville, MO 63338; phone: 314-928-4570.

### QUIET ROUNDS

Subsonic projectiles lack the "sonic boom" or "ballistic crack" associated with bullets traveling faster than sound, making them an obvious choice for use in sound-suppressed weapons, as this is one less sound to suppress. Except for a handful of pistol rounds, however, off-the-shelf choices have been limited, and simply down-loading existing rounds can lead to function problems in autoloading actions.

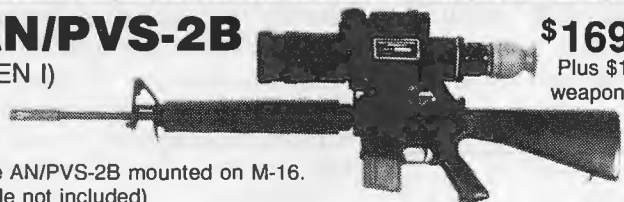
Now, Blaylock's Gun Works (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 1426, Gun Barrel City, TX 75147; phone: 903-887-2655; fax: 903-887-4796) has on the market



an assortment of rounds tailored specifically for suppressed weapons. Many of these rounds are subsonic. From specialized loads in standard rounds to mission-specific wildcat rounds, they offer a full line of ammunition that is designed to be quiet, accurate, and effective on target. A case in point is the ".300 Anabis" round, illustrated here between a standard .308 and .223 round, which is available with a 240-grain bullet that will carry 533 foot-pounds of energy to the target in a subsonic loading. Contact them for details of their suppressors, dedicated suppressed weapons and specialized ammunition. ✕

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## U.S. SPITS ON VETS, AGAIN

This is not a rebuttal, but a reply and addition to the letter from David Hackworth regarding President Clinton and his attempts to undermine the morale of the U.S. military.

I am a Vietnam vet, airborne infantry. This past November, when the American people once again spit on Viet vets and elected a draft dodger as commander in chief, many old buried hatchets were uncovered.

In this age of political correctness, our thoughts and actions are supposed to be worded so not to offend a myriad of splinter/radical groups, be they Martian-Americans, Femme-Americans or whatever. Funny, on election day no one cared when they offended the veterans of all wars of this country. So now, through misguided voters, the country embraces cowards and homosexuals and spits on its vets.

For all we know, there are still U.S. service personnel captive in S.E. Asia; if so, they're probably being forced to look at pictures of their draft-dodging commander in chief.

Yes indeed, Mr. Hackworth,

count me in your revolutionary army.  
*De oppresso liber.*

Paul O'Hara  
Paducah, Kentucky

## QUEERS BAN SOF

Jim Brantley should go back to the Dark Ages ( See articles *SOF* April, June, July and Sept. '93). This is a free country or did he forget. He should go live in Russia. But a closed-minded, stupid person like him will never understand what this country stands for unless it's forced into his thick head by his heart when his child is gay or his wife needs a woman more than him.

The word is out! All gays have banded [sic] this mag. *SOF* will never have a lasting future!

No Name  
Palatine, Illinois

## HE DON'T NEED NO STINKIN' BADGES

As evidenced in John Zimmerman's fine article "Worst Kind Of War" (*SOF* Sept. '93), there seems to be a growing trend by members of the U.S. Army to complain about not getting the appropriate recognition for doing

their duty. Over the last couple of years it seems I have heard or read the laments of more and more soldiers complaining that they did not get the medals, combat patches, badges, or whatever they deserved.

In my 20 years of service I learned that the Army's award program is indeed unfair, but the point is that we do our duty with or without recognition, and we should not cry about it if we do not get it. I have learned to mistrust anyone who is concerned about which "I've-Been-There-Too" badge they may or may not get.

I have never heard a Marine cry about recognition. Perhaps we Army guys should take a lesson from them.

Maj. Edward T. Martin  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

## "NUTS" TO FEDERAL TOTALITARIANISM

After reading the secret FBI gun control memorandum, all I can say is "nuts." If this type of totalitarianism is enacted, then it will be time for the citizens of this country to organize and take up arms. When our government endorses this type of totally anti-constitutional behavior, we as citizens must fight no matter what the cost.

Montana!  
Missoula, Montana

## DEEP BLACK

James L. Pate's "Waco's Defective Warrants," (*SOF* Aug. '93) was an excellent case-in-point example of how our law enforcement agencies are presently being misused through inept leadership and misguided/abused policies.

Similarly flawed policies can be seen when looking at the Special Forces-trained/recruited security personnel currently stationed at such "Deep Black" project installations as the CIA's Dulce, New Mexico, site and the Area 51






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"Dreamland," Nevada, facility.

Apparently a 1979 "altercation" at the Dulce site resulted in both SF/security and civilian (scientist) casualties never officially acknowledged, though sources and CIA documents obtained through the FOIA seem to confirm this.

I'd like to correspond with any SF/SF-trained security personnel who were actually involved in this incident or who personally witnessed other similar events in the desert southwest.

Tomm Buzzetta  
 1080 Lindsay Lane  
 Florissant, MO 63031

**2ND AMENDMENT AIN'T ABOUT HUNTING**

William Sessions, former director of the FBI, in a last-ditch effort to save his job, directed all FBI station chiefs around the country to support and push for the Brady Bill. In an effort to get on the good side of the president and attorney general, Sessions tried to turn the federal government's main law enforcement agency into a political machine.

Think about it. Sessions is ordering his people to support a certain political view, regardless of what their own opinions may be. This should open people's eyes to see the left-wing might get the idea to use law enforcement to achieve its political goals, the first being gun control.

The 2nd Amendment was intended for people to have a means not only of self-defense, but as a counterbalance to the military and government. Though gun haters claim it only permits us to keep guns for hunting, that argument is ludicrous. Are we to believe the Founding Fathers felt so strongly about our right to hunt that they included it in the Constitution, second in importance above most of our other rights?

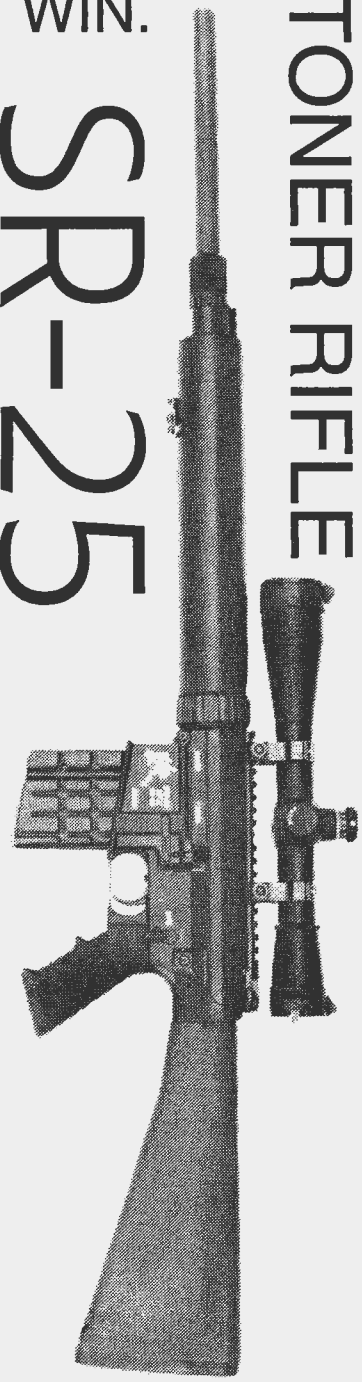
Emilio Sanzano  
 Port St. Lucie, Florida

**USG DEATH SQUADS**

I offer these two additional comments concerning the murders of the Branch Davidians by ATF and FBI death squads (that's what they are trained to do, kill and destroy).

First, there is no evidence the

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# Army MASH or AIDS Station?

by Chuck Fremont

Photo by Nick Dodich

*MASH units are mobile surgical hospitals capable of providing medical care ranging from routine sick call to complex surgery in a field environment. But when MASH 212 deployed from Germany to Zagreb Aerodrome in November 1992, it was faced with a problem no MASH unit had ever before had to deal with: AIDS-infected soldiers.*

**Well-removed** from civilian activity at Croatia's main international airport, MASH 212 set up shop on the tarmac at the far end of a taxiway in an area of old hangers and warehouses secured by a French logistics battalion. This past May, MASH 212 rotated out and was replaced by MASH 502.

Before they rotated, I asked an Army doctor at MASH 212 what their biggest problem was, since they hadn't seen a lot of combat casualties. "AIDS," he replied. "The Kenyan troops show up for sick call with AIDS symptoms. We test them

for HIV and they come up positive. A few days later and they're dead."

How many so far, I asked?

"Several."

"MASH units aren't set up to deal with AIDS," he continued. "This is basically just a big tent — it can't be properly sterilized to avoid endangering other patients. But we were briefed before we left Germany to expect this with the African troops."

Another journalist, Mark Milstein of Atlantic News Service, interviewed a spokesperson for MASH 502 in August; she confirmed that they had indeed treated AIDS patients.

"I can't tell you how many or what type of treatment they were given," Major Marybeth Arnez told Milstein. "I can't even tell you what happened to them. It would violate doctor-patient confidentiality. All I can say is that, yes, Kenyan and Nigerian troops have tested positive for HIV at our facility."

Major Arnez couldn't say whether other UNPROFOR soldiers had tested HIV-positive. However, Shannon Boyd, a U.N. spokesperson in Zagreb, told Milstein that a small number of troops from former Warsaw Pact countries also tested HIV-positive.

According to Boyd, U.N. policy calls for HIV-positive troops to return to their home countries. She didn't discuss enforcement of this policy and whether any pre-deployment testing is required of UNPROFOR soldiers.

The U.S. military and our major allies do not even deploy HIV-positive troops to other countries, let alone to a combat zone, because the emergency blood supply is the blood of healthy soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines. Status of Forces Agreements (SOFA protocols) between nations specify enforcement procedures. But the United Nations is not a military organization. It has no concept of military operational requirements.

The United Nations is a political

organization, and it would not be politically correct to effectively ban AIDS-infected soldiers from a U.N. force. Nor would it be fiscally correct — providing troops for U.N. peacekeeping operations is a source of hard currency for many Third World nations.

There is another issue here besides exposing soldiers to increased HIV risk — the risk to civilian populations. Croatia and Bosnia were pretty much AIDS-free before this war, ac-

---

**We test them for HIV and they come up positive; a few days later and they're dead.**

---

cording to World Health Organization data. Neither nation has a sex-tourism industry, but they have serious refugee problems. It doesn't take much imagination to see well-paid UNPROFOR soldiers having intimate contact with desperately poor refugee women. There have also been allegations of rape against UNPROFOR soldiers.

Croatia and Bosnia have plenty of trouble with war, a shattered economy, tens of thousands of refugees, maimed soldiers and civilians and all the attendant difficulties of nation-building. They don't need the United Nations spreading AIDS to their citizens. UNPROFOR soldiers should be tested for HIV prior to deployment — by a responsible medical facility — and should never even get on a plane for the Balkans if they test positive.

*Chuck Fremont, a former Special Forces NCO and frequent contributor to SOF, recently returned from covering the Balkan war. ✕*



Specialist Gary Wilkinson of MASH 502, at Pleso Air Base in Zagreb with a pint of whole blood. UNPROFOR troops have tested positive for HIV at this facility.



**AC-130** rolling down the strip, Special ops on a one-way trip. Mission unstated, destination unknown, We don't know if we'll ever come home ... Although we often sing this chant as we run, few such missions actually occur. But our readiness and ability to conduct no-notice operations is real and only one of our combat capabilities. Special Operations (SO or SpecOps) forces are normally the first to enter and last to leave a combat area. These forces are ready, versatile, and able to operate in any environment — or as we say, we are “mobile, agile, and hostile.”

Like other units, SpecOps forces exist to protect and promote U.S. interests, but what makes them unique is the focus on small, highly skilled teams of men doing the audacious, usually behind enemy lines. Successful special operations are primarily a function of individual and small unit proficiency — high-quality troops applying well-honed combat skills with innovation and self-reliance.

SpecOps forces provide the United States a broader range of military options. Organized, trained and equipped to provide a tailored use of force, their special skills and low visibility can provide a viable military response in times of crisis. And special operations do not entail the degree of political liability or risk as do large, visible, conventional operations.

The Department of Defense claims SpecOps is an important element of a “balanced national defense posture,” but it comprises only 1.2% of the defense budget and 1.7% of the manpower. What is most remarkable about these low figures is that they represent a 10-fold increase made during the “revitalization” of the last decade.

### From Red Coats To Red Hordes

Unconventional warfare is as ancient as the Trojan War. The American experience began during the Colonial period with units of scouts and rangers who adopted native combat techniques. The experience grew with the partisan resistance forces who operated in the Revolutionary and Civil wars. Counter guerrilla tactics were developed during the Philippine insurrection and in the Central American adventures that followed World War I.

Modern special operations were born in World War II. The Army's Special Forces (SF) traces its lineage to the

Typical rubber boat infil by SpecOps personnel armed with M203 grenade launcher on M16A2 rifle (foreground), M60 machine gun (center), 12-gauge shotgun (rear).



SpecOps trooper “lases” target to direct precision-guided munition home. A technique that works, but requires operator on ground in sight of target — often far behind enemy lines.



HALO (High Altitude, Low Opening) infil, used to avoid radar. SpecOps teams have extensive training, delivery systems to go with it.

Direct Action hit on enemy POL dump. DA missions take bull by horns — often in his own pen.

# GURUS OF

Office of Strategic Services (OSS) which trained and equipped partisans for guerrilla warfare and conducted raids, sabotage and intelligence operations. Other Army special operations units were Darby's Rangers, Merrill's Marauders and the 1st Special Service Force. Air Force special operations were born with the 1st Air Commando Group which supported unconventional operations behind the lines in Burma. Naval special operations began with Underwater Demolition Teams (UDT “Frogmen”) and Marine Raider units.

Most of America's SpecOps capabilities were lost in the postwar demobilization, and the Korean War brought





# GUERRILLA WARFARE

## Inside America's Secret Sixth Service

by Lt. Col. R.B. Anderson

Photos courtesy DoD

only a brief revival. During the early 1960s when there was great concern over post-colonial instability and communist aggression, President Kennedy directed an increase in special operations forces. The Special Forces expanded to seven groups; Navy SEa-Air-Land (SEAL) teams evolved from UDT; and the Air Force activated the

440th Combat Crew Training Squadron.

Vietnam was SpecOps' high watermark. Air Force SpecOps forces flew the first combat missions of the war and later interdicted the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Special Forces began sending soldiers in 1957; they and other advisers started America's overt involvement in the ground war.





Troops and SpecOps advisers armed with M16 rifles display captured communist flag. Training, supporting indigenous personnel is typical SpecOps mission.

Special Forces advised regular forces and also raised and trained more than 50,000 Vietnamese irregulars. Special Forces and SEALs conducted extensive operations in enemy-held and cross-border areas, including the Son Tay prison raid. Ranger companies were reactivated and conducted reconnaissance and ambush patrols. Although their numbers were small, SpecOps forces played a major role in Vietnam and their courage was unsurpassed: One of every 10 Medals of Honor was awarded to a SpecOps warrior.

### From Poor Stepchild ...

During the post-Vietnam drawdown, America once again concentrated on conventional forces and neglected special operations. Units were deactivated and funding was slashed 95% until SpecOps only accounted for 0.1% of the defense budget. The Desert One tragedy in 1980 resulted in renewed congressional support, but the services failed to respond. Problems with employing SpecOps forces during Grenada renewed congressional interest, but the services still did not adequately provide for their special operations forces. For example, the Air Force often stalled procurement of SpecOps aircraft *that Congress repeatedly funded*.

### To Favored Son

Congress finally became convinced it could not depend on the services to "fix" SpecOps and passed a series of acts that resulted in the 1987 establishment of U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. In doing this, Congress created a *de facto* sixth service — all special operations forces in the United States are assigned to USSOCOM and USSOCOM has control of the budget. USSOCOM monitors the promotions, assignments, retention, and training of all SpecOps forces and develops and acquires unique weapons and equipment.

USSOCOM commands both active and reserve units and is organized into three service components and a joint command. The *Army Special Operations Command*

(ASOC) is located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and consists of Special Forces groups, the Ranger Regiment, Army SpecOps aviation units, and signal and support units. Psychological operations (PsyOps) and Civil Affairs (CA) are somewhat related to SpecOps, so the Army placed them under ASOC and got USSOCOM to "adopt" and pay for them.

*Air Force Special Operations Command* (AFSOC), located at Hurlburt Field, Florida, includes special operations wings/groups, a special tactics group (combat air control and pararescue), and weather teams. AFSOC provides the aircraft used to infiltrate (infil), exfiltrate (exfil), and resupply ground and maritime SpecOps forces. AFSOC also provides fire support aircraft. AFSOC has the ability to conduct low-level penetration into hostile territory, in aircraft that are

equipped with special navigation and sensor devices, with air crews who use night-vision and forward-looking infrared equipment.

The home port of *Naval Special Warfare (NSW) Command* is Coronado, California. Navy Special Warfare includes SEAL Teams, SEAL Delivery Vehicle (SDV) Teams, and Special Boat Squadrons/Units. Among other missions, SEALs conduct raids, reconnaissance, and maritime interdiction. SEAL delivery vehicles are small, submersible vehicles launched from submarines that carry SEALs into hostile ports or beaches. Special Boat Units use surface craft to infil and exfil SEALs and to conduct coastal patrols, surveillance and interdiction.

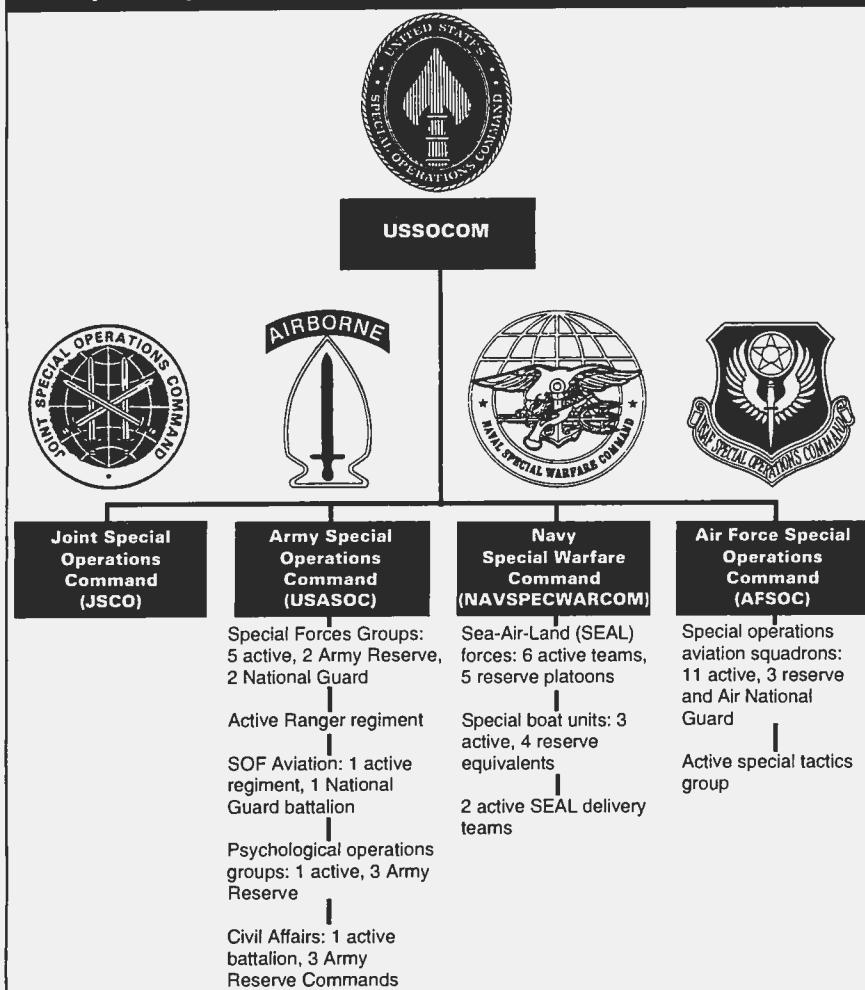
### No SpecOp Marines?

"Why no Marines?" is a common question. There are two reasons: The first is that there is no need for another, competing SpecOps force; Marine Force Recon units and Navy SEALs meet Marine reconnaissance requirements. Secondly, the Marine Corps is very jealous of its forces. When SpecOps came back into vogue, the Marine Corps considered creating a special operations force, but did not do so because the Marines did not want to lose command of any of its forces to USSOCOM. However, prior to embarking, some Marine Expeditionary Units (MEUs) do receive enhanced training and equipment which gives them a limited capability to conduct *in extremis* (last resort) maritime special operations. A "special" MEU is a 2000-man conventional force of infantry, tanks, artillery and aircraft. Because of their punch and staying power, these MEUs can play an important SpecOps-supporting or follow-on role.

The final major USSOCOM organization is the *Joint Special Operations Command* (JSOC) located at Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina. According to a publicly released posture statement, JSOC performs the following missions: provides a standing joint (interservice) special operations task force; provides joint special operations planning; studies joint special operations requirements and techniques; ensures interoperability and equipment



## U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM): Organization and Forces



standardization; and conducts joint special operations exercises.

Joint Special Operations Command is funded and manned at a level that is the envy of other organizations. JSOC members call themselves the "First Team" and sometimes display a degree of arrogance that doesn't endear them to other operators. JSOC's ambition to be the elite-of-the-elite headquarters for all types of missions invades the turf of other organizations, and some feel that JSOC has overstepped its intended purpose.

### Secret Armies, Black Operations

Within USSOCOM's domain there are other agencies and activities that are sometimes referred to as "the secret armies" or "the dark side of the force." Some of these organizations specialize in offensive counterterrorism, unique intelligence gathering, or super secret "special activities." All SpecOps units have the ability to conduct black operations, but there are dark-side organizations that *concentrate* on such missions. There is a blackout of information on these activities, and their existence is "covered."

The five fundamental principles that make SpecOps work are: high-quality personnel, intense training, technological superiority, advanced doctrine and versatile force structure. The most important principle is high-caliber people. Those seeking to join must first do well in their parent service before entering the special operations se-

lection process. Volunteers must then demonstrate the maturity, intelligence, and physical toughness needed to perform under the most stressful conditions.

Special operations forces train for missions that only they conduct. The actual execution of "real world" missions can be either openly acknowledged, clandestine or covert. Clandestine operations are conducted in such a way as to conceal the activity. Covert operations are planned and executed to conceal the identity of the sponsor or to permit plausible denial. In special operations, a mission can be both covert and clandestine. There are five principle missions:

**Unconventional Warfare (UW)** is the military aspect of an insurgency or other armed resistance movement. Unconventional warfare encompasses a broad spectrum of military and paramilitary operations conducted in enemy-controlled or politically sensitive territory. It includes guerrilla warfare, subversion, sabotage, intelligence collection, and other operations of a low-visibility or clandestine nature. These activities are normally associated with a long-term commitment and are the historical basis for SF. UW operations are primarily conducted by indigenous or surrogate forces who are organized, trained, equipped, supported and directed by SpecOps forces.

UW participants are organized into three elements: The guerrilla force is the overt military arm, the auxiliary element provides clandestine support to guerrillas, and the underground element operates in small cells and conducts clandestine subversion and sabotage. Special Forces' work with the Kuwaiti resistance in Desert Shield/Storm was a UW operation. The classic example is OSS Detachment 101, which operated in occupied Burma in World War II. Detachment 101 consisted of 300 U.S. troops and 3,200 guerrillas, which cleared 10,000 Japanese from a 10,000-square-mile area and earned a Presidential Unit Citation.

**Direct Action (DA)** missions are offensive operations conducted in a low-visibility or clandestine manner. DA missions often employ raids, ambushes, or direct-assault tactics. Other missions involve emplacing demolitions or booby traps, conducting sabotage, or providing terminal guidance for laser-guided munitions. DA missions are usually short in duration and have a planned exfil. They are designed to achieve significant, well-defined, and often time-sensitive results. DA missions normally have a "hands on" requirement that is beyond the capabilities of conventional weapons systems or forces. The commando raids of World War II and the Son Tay raid in Vietnam are examples of DA missions. The best recent example was Operation Just Cause in Panama, where 27 DA targets were hit simultaneously on the first night. Army and Navy SpecOps forces struck enemy positions and seized critical

bridges, communication sites and terrain; fire support was provided by AFSOC AC-130 Spectre gunships.

*Special Reconnaissance* (SR) places "eyes on target" to obtain well-defined, time-sensitive information. It may complement other collection efforts, or be the only method when there is a problem with weather, terrain masking, or enemy countermeasures. Typical SR missions include target acquisition, contact with resistance forces, reporting on enemy movements, surveillance of sensitive facilities, and meteorological or hydrographic reconnaissance to support conventional ops (including support of Marine and fleet ops). Examples of SR missions were Project Delta in Vietnam (U.S. and Vietnamese teams) and the cross-border Desert Storm missions conducted prior to G-day (conventional ground attack). The most successful SR mission ever may have been the four-man OSS team that para-

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## Hostage rescue is risky business and one of the risks is highly publicized disaster.

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chuted into Sardinia in World War II. They reported the German evacuation and then arranged for the surrender of the Italian defense forces and a friendly reception of the Allies.

*Counterterrorism* (CT) is the offensive action taken against terrorists themselves. *Antiterrorism* (AT) is the defensive measures taken to defend against or preclude terrorist attack. Any military organization can conduct AT, but CT is normally conducted by SpecOps forces with highly specialized capabilities. CT is usually an interagency activity with a civilian agency having lead authority and SpecOps forces serving as "trigger men." CT missions include hostage rescue, attack on terrorist infrastructure, or the recovery of sensitive weapons or material.

Counterterrorist missions require close coordination, team work, and the ability to make life-and-death decisions in an instant. The skills required to conduct CT are perishable and must be continually honed by intensive training. Most CT activities are classified and further discussion here isn't possible except to make an observation: The individuals who work CT are extraordinary and have the finest array of specialized weapons and equipment; but, like the rest of the military, CT operators are still subject to bureaucratic bumbling, misuse, and/or bad luck. Hostage rescue is risky business and one of the risks is highly publicized disaster.

*Foreign Internal Defense* (FID) supports a friendly government facing a threat to its internal stability and security. The objective of FID operations is to provide a secure environment for development to occur. The host people need to be free from fear of insurgent reprisals before they will fully support the government. The role of SpecOps forces is to train, advise, and otherwise assist the host's military. Typical FID missions include consolidation operations, strike operations, remote area operations,

and border security operations.

*Consolidation operations* are long-term population security measures that protect the population and neutralize the insurgent infrastructure. *Strike operations* destroy the insurgent forces, their base areas, and isolate them from their support. The goal of *remote area operations* is to create "islands of support" in insurgent controlled territory. *Border security* comprises combat ops to prevent and interdict the infiltration of insurgents or smugglers; the 5th SF Group and Saudi SF conducted border security ops during Desert Shield.

The classic example of a FID operation is the 5th SF Group in Vietnam. In 1969, the 5th Group strength was 3,740, and they directed and sustained the 42,000-man Civilian Irregular Defense Group and were advisers to another 40,000 Vietnamese soldiers. Currently, on an average day, there are over 2,000 SpecOps troops deployed to more than 20 countries providing advice, training, and supporting nation-building programs.

### A Mixed Black Bag

Other activities SpecOps forces can perform are personnel recovery, humanitarian assistance, counterdrug assistance, and coalition warfare. Coalition warfare was added after the success of the 106 teams employed by the 5th SF Group in Desert Storm to facilitate interaction between the coalition partners and the United States. SF teams conducted FID with the Royal Saudi Land Forces, helped reconstitute the Kuwaiti forces, and worked with French legionnaires and the 108,000-man Pan-Arab forces. General Schwarzkopf stated that SpecOps forces were the "glue that held the Coalition together."

The missions described above require soldiers who have the ability to make friends and get things accomplished within the framework of the host's culture ("ugly Americans" need not apply). Special Forces, CA, PsyOps, and some SEAL units are oriented to specific areas of the world and learn the language, culture, customs, and politics of a country or region. These are rapidly deployable units and can be immediately effective upon arrival.

### Special Abilities For Special Operations

A strong suit of SpecOps is their ability to act as a force multiplier: Each 12-man SF team has the ability to recruit, train, and direct a battalion of indigenous troops. They can also serve as the link that enables the host forces and U.S. conventional forces to operate in concert, and they can direct close air support for host forces. Civil Affairs and PsyOps units also have the ability to organize local people into coherent work groups.

Unrestricted by conventional boundaries, SpecOps troops readily penetrate denied areas. They can infil undetected by air, land, or sea into areas other forces cannot approach without hostile reaction. SpecOps teams are capable of worldwide communication; they have self-contained medical ability and are capable of living under harsh conditions with little support.

Masters at keeping a low profile, these forces work with military troops of many countries and have earned a reputation for being non-intrusive and maintaining low-visibility. Because SpecOps forces are politically acceptable to foreign nations, this allows the United States to have an effective, low-cost forward presence.



WHAT'S  
THE  
FIRST  
STEP  
TO A  
POLICE  
STATE?



# FBI MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 11, 1993  
FROM: Federal Bureau of Investigation  
TO: The President of the United States  
The U.S. Attorney General

*They just got a new \$47 million computer system.*

## FBI GUN CONTROL RECOMMENDATIONS

*They know semiauto rifles are used in less than 1% of all crime. And they know better than to call semiautos "assault weapons." But they'll do it to get your guns.*

1. Mandatory licensing of all handgun owners.
2. A complete ban on the sale, transfer or possession of semiautomatic firearms, with no compensation for current owners.
3. A complete ban on the sale, transfer or possession of high-performance ammunition commonly used for hunting and self-defense.
4. Taxpayer-funded buy-back programs for firearms surrendered to law enforcement authorities within an amnesty period.
5. Immediate enactment of the Brady Bill "national waiting period."
6. Reallocation of FBI resources to increase regulation of manufacturers, collectors and federally licensed firearm dealers.
7. Develop a media strategy to publicize and develop support for the FBI's position.

*They know criminals won't turn in their guns. But they want yours.*

*They know "armor-piercing" ammunition is already banned except for police and military use; this expands the ban to whatever ammunition they want.*

*They ought to use FBI resources to catch criminals, not create them.*

*Their own Department called the Brady Bill "useless" – but they also know it's popular with Clinton.*

*Violates federal law Sec. 1913, Title 18, U.S.C., which prohibits the use of congressionally appropriated funds for lobbying purposes.*



# WHEN THE FBI STATES THE RULES.

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
F.B.I., in Shift, Proposes Backing Gun Control

By DAVID JOHNSTON  
Special to The New York Times  
WASHINGTON, July 7 — The Federal Bureau of Investigation is proposing to break its tradition of public neutrality on political issues and call for immediate enactment of the bill to require a five-day waiting period for

gun's life, was reintroduced in the House and the Senate this year. Last year it was part of a larger anti-crime measure that failed largely because of Senate opposition to its gun control provisions. Even Mr. the F. o.

The proposed policy the licensing of all h training for their laws to

FBI chief urges Reno to back gun control

By Debbie Howlett  
USA TODAY

FBI Director

"We're disappointed Mr. sions, in a desperate atten preserve a place in the tion. I thernp"

**STOP THE FBI'S POLITICAL AGENDA. JOIN THE NRA NOW.**

**F**or 58 years, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has honored its own policy to stay out of politics. Until now.

In a frightening and unprecedented action, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has proposed immediate adoption of its manifesto against law-abiding gun owners to the U.S. Attorney General and the Clinton Administration. If they get what they want, gun owners like you will be Public Enemy #1.

More incredibly, the FBI also wanted to recommend a complete ban on all handgun ownership, but

*"concluded that a proposed ban would not receive sufficient support" right now. So you know what's next.*

Such abuse of broad investigative powers is the first step toward our Founding Fathers' worst fear: a federal police force disarming the law-abiding populace.

Your first step is to stop it. By joining the NRA today.

**KEEP THE FBI OUT OF POLITICS.  
JOIN THE NRA NOW  
1-800-231-4NRA**

# “TAKE BACK YOUR GOVERNMENT AND SAVE YOUR GUNS. JOIN NRA NOW.”

If you're like me, you've always respected the bravery and devotion of America's rank-and-file FBI agents. I think they agree with the FBI's own statement that if the FBI *“is engaged in partisan politics it would destroy the confidence of the Executive Branch, the Congress and the American people.”* But now their extremist leadership is determined to become a political anti-gun police force.



*Wayne R. Lapierre*

WAYNE R. LAPIERRE  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Rifle Association

That's a line they cannot cross. The FBI cannot be deployed to terrorize honest gun owners and lobby for the banning of lawfully owned firearms and ammunition. The Second Amendment says so. And with your help, 3.2 million NRA members will make it stick.

The FBI is *our* FBI. The government is *our* government. Our Constitution and Bill of Rights are the law of the land. Not them.

You must do two things now. First, tell Congress and the White House to keep the FBI out of politics and out of your gun cabinet. Second, call and join the NRA *now*.

## CALL THE NRA INSTANT MEMBER HOTLINE NOW 1-800-231-4NRA

### YOUR \$25 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- Effective representation of law-abiding gun owners at federal, state and local levels of government
- 12 issues of the *American Hunter* or the *American Rifleman* magazine
- An NRA no-annual-fee, low-interest VISA card (for qualified individuals)\*
- NRA shooters cap
- Members-only insurance benefits
- And much, much more

You can charge your membership to your VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express, or we can bill you later. \*The transaction fee for cash advances is \$3.00; the annual percentage rate for cash advances except balance-transfer checks is 11.5%. The late-payment fee is \$15. The over-credit fee is \$15.



Contributions, gifts or member dues made or paid to the NRA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. ©1993 National Rifle Association of America.





USAF MH-60K Pave Hawk special operations helicopter is fitted with sophisticated ordnance, instrumentation to make excellent delivery platform for SpecOps personnel.

A built-in limitation is that such teams must travel light. They have limited firepower and little, if any, organic transportation. The Rangers are the only SpecOps force structured to seize territory, and their ability to hold an area is limited until follow-on forces arrive. The SpecOps target-planning cycle is 96 hours. This seems long but it enables the executing team to conduct a detailed analysis of all facets of the mission. Missions can be conducted very rapidly, but the risk of failure increases as planning time decreases.

And there are areas where SpecOps has not been all it can be. USSOCOM has produced weak joint-doctrine publications, and most joint operators are forced to develop their own supplements to Army doctrine. Joint logistical support for large operations was inadequate during Desert Shield/Storm and still hasn't been completely fixed. We have outstanding short and mid-range infil/exfil capabilities, but a reliable platform for long range exfil doesn't exist. Teams can parachute in — but how do they get out? Troops don't like the idea of one-way missions. Another problem is the experience level and affiliation of senior leaders; we grow very few of our own generals.

Congress took away the services' command of their SpecOps forces, but the Army and Air Force have maintained control by not promoting career SpecOps officers to general and instead assign conventional generals to high-level SpecOps slots. For example, the last commander of SOC Pacific began his first day of SpecOps as a brigadier general and did little to hide his distaste for special operators. This may be the only American military branch where experience is greater at the bottom than the top. Lieutenant Colonel David Christie, Australian SpecOps liaison officer at Fort Bragg, recently observed in *Special Warfare* magazine, "Special Forces are being forced to become more conventional, which I think your commanders are well aware of."

"Who's the best" questions are frequently asked: Are Special Forces really better than the 82nd Airborne or the Marines? Are Rangers better than Special Forces? Are SEALs better than Rangers? These questions can only be answered when put in perspective —

*best at what?* An SF officer, briefing a potentially hostile gathering of conventional officers, defused the situation by saying, "Each one of you is the best at what you do: the best Army, the best Navy, the best Marines, the best Air Force. We are the best at what *we* do."

He was right. The American military is the best in the world and each of the services is the best of its type. Where there are overlapping capabilities, the outfit designed to do the job does it best. The Army can conduct amphibious operations, but not as well as the Marine Corps; the Marines can't match the Army in protracted land warfare.

The SpecOps forces are better than conventional forces at small unit operations. They are especially designed, armed, and trained to conduct these missions. As individuals, SpecOps enlisted are better in that they are generally more mature and intelligent, and they are volunteers who have undergone a rigorous selection process — in many cases, several rigorous selections.

Do we have the best SpecOps in the world? Of the foreign special operations units this writer has seen, the British Special Forces (Special Air Service and Special Boat Squadron) are the most impressive. The British enlisted are as good as Americans, and their officers and modes of operations are much better. The British operate with the same casual confidence we had during Vietnam. British SpecOps didn't almost die in the '70s and '80s, whereas ours did, and we have not fully recovered. Nonetheless, American SpecOps are overall better than anyone because we have the best equipment and because AFSOC is the best air delivery force in the world.

Who's the best of American SpecOps? Again it depends on "best" *at what*. Rangers are the finest conventional light infantry in the world, but they are not really a special operations force. SEALs and SF SCUBA teams

are the most physical special operators. SEALs don't operate as well on land as do SF, and SCUBA teams don't have the underwater capabilities of SEALs. Because of their many capabilities I consider SF to be the



SEALs armed with MP5 submachine guns conduct ship-seizure training mission. SpecOps men, equipment often assigned to assist other agencies.



"Shoothouse" counterterrorist training. Skills degrade if not used: SpecOps train to keep theirs honed.

Continued on page 67



# WACO:

## BEHIND

# THE COVER-UP

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**Gun dealer Henry McMahon** passed many compliance checks by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (ATF) with no trouble. But when a neatly dressed compliance officer and a scruffy-looking young ATF agent showed up unannounced at McMahon's home in Hewitt, Texas, on 30 July 1992, he sensed that this time would be different.

"Normally when they do a compliance check, they'll call you first," McMahon recently observed during two days of interviews with *Soldier Of Fortune*. "That was really strange, that they just showed up." The 31-year-old already had several years of experience with ATF, having entered the gun business following his honorable discharge from the U.S. Air Force in 1986.

When answering the door, McMahon's girlfriend and business partner became immediately suspicious. Karen Kilpatrick, 35, has a healthy streak of Irish stubbornness and a habit of looking people dead in the eye, along with a passion for by-the-book business. She had not in the least been intimidated while eying the two men claiming to be with ATF — she demanded identification.

"If any government agent comes to your house, you expect to see some kind of identification," Kilpatrick observed. "In the gun business, you have to take into consideration not only your safety, but the safety of the neighborhood. You want to make sure they are who they say they are."

Compliance Inspector Jimmy R. Skinner, dressed in a suit and tie, cheerfully handed over his ATF identification card. Slouching behind Skinner in dirty blue jeans and a T-shirt, ATF Special Agent Davy Aguilera said he had no badge, no ID, not even a business card.

"They couldn't figure out what to say then," Kilpatrick recalled. "They looked at each other. To me, Skinner looked at Aguilera as if ... 'I'm here on your behalf, you asked me to come with you, now what?' — and that's when Skinner said Aguilera was a trainee. I thought that was very peculiar, a trainee with no ID dressed as sloppy as he was. He acted very top secret. We thought his shoe was going to start ringing, like he had a phone in it."

Aguilera was no trainee. He'd been an ATF agent almost five years, during

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***ATF Agents Moved To Shield The Media And FBI From Evidence Of Inept Planning, Even While The Federal Siege Of Ranch Apocalypse Was Still Under Way***

by James L. Pate



which time he developed a reputation for “a quick temper, a slow mind and careless personal habits,” according to one former ATF agent who worked with him.

Seven months after that first visit with McMahon and Kilpatrick — a knock on their door that ultimately turned the couple’s lives upside down — Aguilera wrote the flimsy affidavit used to justify the ATF’s disastrous 28 February 1993 raid on the Branch Davidians’ Mount Carmel church outside Waco, Texas (See “Waco’s Defective Warrants,” *SOF* August ’93.).

### Koresh Invites ATF Out

As someone who’d always had good working relationships with law enforcement officers, many of whom became customers, McMahon recalled immediately advising Skinner that, “I had some holes in my [record] book and wanted to explain. I had some guns that were on my books but weren’t there.”

McMahon told Skinner that these firearms, mostly AR-15 frames, had been sold to a man named David Koresh, although the paperwork had not yet been completed. The dealer then volunteered to get the lower receivers or make them available for ATF inspection.

According to McMahon, Skinner was reasonable and agreed to allow him one week to catch up on the ATF Form 4473 requirements. “They stayed through lunch, and at 1 or 2 o’clock in the afternoon they asked me who was [David Koresh] — who was the guy that had been buying so many guns from me? And I said, ‘That’s the guy I was telling you about.’ And they started asking about him.”

While Skinner and Aguilera pored through McMahon’s records, the dealer excused himself and telephoned Koresh. “I told him there were ATF agents at my house asking a lot of questions about him,” McMahon said. “He said, ‘If there’s a problem, tell them to come out here. If they want to see my guns, they’re more than welcome.’”

“So I walked back in the room, holding the cordless phone and said, ‘I’ve got [Koresh] on the phone. If you’d like to go out there and see those guns, you’re more than welcome to.’ They looked at each other and Aguilera got real paranoid, shaking his head and whispering, ‘No, no!’ — so I went back to the phone and told David they wouldn’t be coming out.”

After completing their examination of the dealer’s records, the two ATF men got ready to leave in Aguilera’s red pickup. Skinner, a 20-year ATF veteran, “told us we were 99.9-percent accurate on our records, [that] he had never seen records kept as well and we had no violations,” McMahon said, attributing this to Kilpatrick’s stubborn meticulousness.

McMahon and Kilpatrick gave little more thought to the visit until nearly seven months later when some 100 ATF agents (including Aguilera) assaulted Koresh’s Branch Davidian community. In fact, the ATF never intended to arrest Koresh peacefully. Indeed, seven months before the disastrous raid, the bureau had already made a decision to storm Mount Carmel by force.

McMahon would remember how Aguilera had been offered a chance to question Koresh and inspect his large assortment of guns, but declined the invitation. But what McMahon and Kilpatrick didn’t know last February was how their earlier meeting with Aguilera — and their subsequent cooperation with ATF — would wreck their lives and careers.

### Spectre Gunner

McMahon grew up around guns. His dad, a career federal civil servant, began collecting Ruger firearms before Henry was born. McMahon’s Air Force service included time as a gunner aboard an AC-130H Spectre gunship of the 16th Special Operations Squadron, based near his future partner Kilpatrick’s hometown of Pensacola, Florida.

After an honorable discharge, McMahon took a sales job with the Gulf Breeze Pistol Parlor, where he sold Kilpatrick her first gun. The job also brought him into contact with many law enforcement officers, including agents from the U.S. Customs Service, the FBI and the ATF. He became close friends with several lawmen,

with whom he maintained a reputation as an honest businessman.

McMahon must have been a fairly good salesman; his fortunes rose with those of the Gulf Breeze Pistol Parlor. According to Dun & Bradstreet Corp., the outlet’s annual gross sales reached some \$1.2 million by the late 1980s — an average of 1,000 weapons sold each month.

A friendly, soft-spoken man with a retiring manner, McMahon became Gulf Breeze’s vice president and CEO. As his relationship with Kilpatrick blossomed and her knowledge about the gun business grew, the couple decided to try business on their own. McMahon sold out to



A dispirited, unemployed couple in Pensacola, Florida, July 1993. Former gun dealer Henry McMahon has lost 40 pounds from stress suffered through ATF interference in his life. Karen Kilpatrick endures daily bouts of insomnia, headaches and vomiting. Photo: James L. Pate



his partner, Duke McCaa. After careful market research, the pair decided to move to Texas, a state which hosts more gun shows than any other.

After almost choosing Austin, McMahon and Kilpatrick moved in August 1990 to Hewitt, a small town just south of Waco and centrally located between sites of the biggest Texas gun shows. As in Pensacola, McMahon soon established cordial relations with area lawmen. One such acquaintance was Clint Peoples, a retired Texas Ranger and living legend who was instrumental in founding the Texas Ranger Museum in Waco.

In the spring of 1991, McMahon and Kilpatrick also met a long-haired rock guitarist and religious leader of the Branch Davidian church. "He either picked up my name from a business card or somebody gave it to him," McMahon said. "We had passed out over 10,000 business cards in Texas. We traveled all over the state."

David Koresh became one of the couple's best customers, buying about 5% of the nearly 4,000 guns they sold during two years of business in Texas. The ATF's figures indicate McMahon sold Koresh 223 firearms, however, 104 of those were frames, "which is not a complete gun," as the dealer noted.

"So I sold him 119 guns that were in firing condition. I sold him \$3,000 worth of ammo, which would be about 30,000 rounds," McMahon said, adding he knew of other dealers in Texas who sold larger ammo lots to Koresh.

### **Camaros, Kids & Collecting Guns**

Koresh also became a good friend of McMahon and Kilpatrick, inviting them out to his home to shoot guns, go fishing or ride go-carts. Kilpatrick bought a car from the Mag Bag, a Branch Davidian-run business operated near the loop highway around Waco and located five miles from Mount Carmel. There church members restored Chevrolet Camaros, Koresh's favorite car model.

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***Dressed in SWAT gear, ATF agents were seen rehearsing forced entries on a vacant farmhouse only 150 yards from the Mag Bag, where Koresh and his followers restored cars.***

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McMahon and Kilpatrick ate one Thanksgiving dinner with Koresh and many of his 100-plus live-in followers, but never spent a night at Mount Carmel. Although extensively exposed to Koresh's peculiar brand of theology, the pair never joined the Branch Davidian church, an offshoot of the Seventh-Day Adventist faith.

"The thing about David was that if you went out there



**Your tax dollars at work — July 1993: Federal refuse and tactical supplies in abandoned storage containers near site of bloody Mount Carmel siege. Feds still haven't been able to prove Davidians possessed any illegal weapons. Photo: James L. Pate**

to fish, as you're hooking up the boat trailer, you got a Bible study," McMahon said. "If you were going to shoot a gun, as you're putting bullets in a magazine, you heard a Bible study. If the UPS man delivered packages, he heard a Bible lesson. The telephone repairman heard a Bible study. David Koresh unquestionably knew the Bible and he loved to talk about it — it wasn't like hearing a sermon."

McMahon and Kilpatrick paint a very different picture of Koresh's lifestyle in the months before the ill-fated raid than what would later be portrayed by the ATF and FBI. "David was definitely not a recluse," McMahon

observed. "He traveled all the time. He loved to go to town. He went everywhere, and another thing — he loved those kids. I drove him into town one time and we went to Toys 'R Us. He went in and bought enough Tonka toys to fill the back of my Chevy Suburban to give to all the kids."

"Those kids were very intelligent," Kilpatrick said. "I spent a lot of time by myself with those children. They were happy. I'd change diapers. I've fallen asleep with them on my chest, in their rooms. David loved those kids and he knew I loved those kids. I never saw any sign of child abuse. ... They had their own rooms, carpet on the floors, blinds on the windows, fans, dressers, furniture. To me, those were some of the nicest kids I had ever met."

Koresh's continued purchase of firearms from McMahon did not pass the dealer's notice without concern: "He got up to 30 or 40 guns and I asked him, 'What are you getting all these guns for?' He said they were for investment. He knew about the possibility of a bigger tax on guns and ammo if Clinton got elected. He thought it would be a good way to make a buck. I knew he had been out to Los Angeles and still went out there, so I was a little afraid that he might have been taking military-style rifles that are illegal in L.A. and selling them there.

"So I asked him one day. Said I'd like to go out there and see those guns ... 'They're investments. You've still got them, right?' And he said I was more than welcome to come out and take a look. So he gave me directions — I'd never been out there at that point — and I went out there. All the guns were there. One thing I found out, when he bought guns, he wanted them to be in boxes with all the paperwork, as a collector would.

"If I had a used gun with no box, then he would just hammer on the price. He would want a real discounted price. He was real sharp on his money. He understood investments. So he wanted to know about how to make money at gun shows. We took him to a gun show in Dallas or Fort Worth. He's finding out that he can find a little better deal at these gun shows. So he started easing off on buying as many guns from me."



When Aguilera and Skinner visited McMahon and Kilpatrick in the summer of 1992, the couple were already planning a move back to Florida. While their gun business was getting them by, they were not doing nearly as well as they had in Pensacola. Texas does host the most gun shows of any state; it also has some of the stiffest competition.

McMahon remembers several significant incidents occurring in August 1992:

- The presidential bus campaign of Bill Clinton and Al Gore rolled through Waco; it included a visit to an electric power-generation plant clearly visible one mile away from Mount Carmel. A Branch Davidian church leader, Steve Schneider, went with Koresh's father-in-

law Perry Jones to hear the candidates speak at Baylor University. Mistakenly standing in the wrong line for admission, the two were asked to show their driver licenses and were then issued press credentials allowing them to stand within 10 feet of the candidates. "Steve Schneider showed me the purple press pass," McMahon said. "The Secret Service was real upset with ATF for not letting them know this investigation was going on."

- Dressed in SWAT gear, ATF agents were seen rehearsing forced entries on a vacant farmhouse only 150 yards from the Mag Bag, where Koresh and his followers restored cars. "Several people at the Mag Bag stood and watched," McMahon said. "They were wearing black and had soft vests on, carrying MP5s, kicking in doors, jumping through windows, crawling on the ground. There were maybe 30 people, a supervisor, a Caprice Classic [automobile] and a blue stretch van with tinted windows. They practiced in the afternoon."

- Texas Ranger Tom Burke dropped in at Mount Carmel when McMahon and Kilpatrick were there. "He said he'd heard a lot about David Koresh and just popped out to meet him, to see who he was. He left his business card."



Gun dealer Henry McMahon and partner Karen Kilpatrick with legendary Texas Ranger Clint Peoples inside Waco's Texas Ranger Museum, June 1992. In both Texas and Florida, the gun-dealing couple maintained good relations with local and state lawmen.

Photo: courtesy McMahon/Kilpatrick

- McMahon inadvertently met one of several men who mysteriously moved in across the Double E Ranch Road from the Mount Carmel driveway — ATF's lame version of undercover agents. "He said he was the new ranch foreman," Henry recalled. "I'd grown up around cattle and wondered how many acres were needed to graze a cow in Texas, so I asked him. He just got a blank look and said he didn't know. He sure wasn't any ranch foreman."

### Friends Under Siege

Weeks after these incidents, McMahon and Kilpatrick moved back to Pensacola. For the next few months they worked gun shows again for the Gulf Breeze Pistol Parlor. Then while returning from a show in Jacksonville on the night of 28 February, the couple heard a radio news report about the ATF raid against Koresh.

"The first thing we're thinking is, 'Oh my God! There's all those kids out there,'" Kilpatrick said. "Something didn't seem quite right. We couldn't believe this was David's house."

"Especially because we knew the Texas child welfare lady had been out there, and the Texas Ranger," McMahon affirmed. "David knew most of the county deputies, the sheriff. We knew that he invited ATF out there, so we couldn't make any sense out of it when we heard there had been a raid."

As soon as they reached Pensacola, McMahon called the local ATF office where he had been closely acquainted with several agents. He and Kilpatrick offered to do what they could to help avoid further bloodshed at Mount Carmel. They quickly left to talk with the ATF, taking their record books along. But after meeting Hank Neal, a new resident agent-in-charge, the couple knew they were in for trouble. Instead of being appreciative while they poured out all they knew about Koresh, Neal repeatedly accused them of lying.

"The very first words out of Hank Neal's mouth when he came in was that the ATF knew there were only eight children in there," McMahon said. "Karen immediately objected — told him there were closer to 40 kids in there, including one in a wheelchair. Neal told us that was a damned lie."

### Weekend From Hell

Despite their less-than-hospitable reception at the ATF's Pensacola office, McMahon and Kilpatrick went back frequently during the Waco standoff's first five days. Then on Friday, 5 March, when they dropped by the Gulf Breeze Pistol Parlor to pick up their inventory for a weekend gun



Deserted FBI sniper post near Ranch Apocalypse, July 1993. The ATF had never intended to arrest Koresh peacefully. Indeed, seven months before the disastrous raid, the bureau had already made a decision to storm the Mount Carmel community by force.  
Photo: Ken Carter

show, the pair found out that Neal intimidated McCaa into terminating their jobs.

Later that same day, Neal told the couple he did not want them moving from Kilpatrick's parents' house into their own residence. "We had already moved our furniture in, turned the water on, the electric," Kilpatrick recalled. "So we lost that and had to sell everything. Neal told us not to move and that they preferred that we didn't work. He told us that if we talked to anyone about it — like the press — then they couldn't protect us anymore. Protect us from what? He didn't say."

Afraid that any public statements might make the bad situation in Waco even worse, McMahon and Kilpatrick had no intention of talking. But they also had no fear of the Branch Davidians, whom they still considered friends. Since TV news trucks began prowling the neighborhood around Kilpatrick's parents' home, the ATF decided to take them into "protective custody," stashing them over-

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**... [ATF] released a statement to the press attributed to the couple, in which they supposedly expressed fear for their lives at the hands of angry Branch Davidians — a blatant lie.**

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night on 5-6 March in the Civic Inn located behind Pensacola's West Laurel Hospital.

When McMahon suggested moving to stay with his parents in Oregon, Neal strongly objected, saying the couple would not be allowed to leave Florida even though they were not under arrest nor charged with any crime. He quickly changed his mind, however, so they boarded an

0500 Saturday flight for Seattle on 6 March. The pair were advised to not tell anyone of their whereabouts. At the Seattle airport they were met by two ATF agents holding a card on which was written "Taser," a prearranged code.

Unknown to McMahon and Kilpatrick, Neal released a statement to the press attributed to the couple, in which they supposedly expressed fear for their lives at the hands of angry Branch Davidians — a blatant lie. The pair finally learned that the ATF's main interest was in "pro-

tecting" them from talking to the FBI, which had already begun investigating the raid on Koresh.

While in the Northwest, the couple were interrogated several times by ATF agents. "They kept telling us we had some scheme going," Kilpatrick said. "I got real upset. Everything we'd told them was true. They kept asking the same questions over and over, questions we'd answered eight months earlier [for Skinner and Aguilera]." Frustrated at one point by repetitive questioning from the Seattle agents, McMahon put his head on a table and began snoring.

### Back To Waco

"On the 18th of March," continued Karen, drawing from her detailed notes, "Henry talked to Hank Neal to tell him that we didn't have any money, that we were depending on his parents for food and were having to borrow money from them. The ATF had not paid us a penny of per diem. And Henry's dad was asking, 'Aren't they paying you any per diem?' So Hank Neal tells Henry he has no job in Pensacola and how were we going to get home," — implying that ATF would not pay for a return flight.

McMahon hung up the phone at this point. Kilpatrick made some calls to find out who Neal's boss was, then called Neal once more to tell him they needed to obtain funds, through talking to the press if necessary. Neal soon called back and said they would be flown to Dallas for debriefing. On 22 March, still without money, the couple flew to Dallas where they were met by Inspector Skinner and two ATF special agents. To their surprise, they were told they would be driven to Waco.

McMahon and Kilpatrick were given a room at the



Econo Lodge in Waco. Next morning, they were driven to 700 S. University Parks Drive, where federal authorities and Texas Rangers set up a task force office to deal with the bloody disaster created by ATF's incompetent operation. As they walked to the front door, McMahon saw the blue van observed months earlier at the SWAT rehearsal near the Mag Bag.

"Karen, there's that blue van," McMahon had said.

"Everybody stops and says, 'What blue van?' They look at us," Karen recalled. "Everybody stops and turns around to look and it gets real quiet. Then we walk in."

Inside, the couple were separated for the first time to undergo questioning. McMahon said several ATF agents came in and told him the SWAT practice where the blue van was first seen had been conducted by the Waco Police Department.

"I told them Waco didn't have a SWAT team, especially one with 30 people," McMahon said. "They left the room for a little while, then came back in and told me it was a DEA SWAT team. I said, 'Look guys, it doesn't matter to me who it was, as long as you get your story straight.'"

That set the tone for the couple's most grueling day of questioning. All day long, the pair were told repeatedly that they'd be able to talk with FBI agents — it never happened. Aside from the grilling by ATF personnel, McMahon and Kilpatrick were also interviewed that day by several Texas Rangers.

The Rangers "were interested in what the ATF had

**Eulogy for the Constitution:** By July, this Branch Davidian marker bore only an affecting summary composed by Ron Cole, one of many Americans drawn to Mount Carmel's ruins. Photo: James L. Pate

**This past Memorial Day I took a moment to reflect, in solemn sorrow, on a lost loved one. I remember her well as an innocent child, taken from me by a gang of low life thieves that used her for their own purposes.**

**Their purposes were not honorable, but she did not resist, trusting that no one would intentionally harm her or destroy her way of life. She was the epitomy of beauty, innocence and all the admirable qualities that others admire but few have the courage or resolve to gain.**

**It was not by force of arms that she fell, silent, mortally wounded. Rather it was by slight of hand, trickery and deceit.**

**She wept but I did not hear her, and by the time I realized her peril, she was gone.**

**I blame myself as I saw the danger but did not raise my voice to warn her, nor my hand to defend her. I, too, was fooled by the cowardly bastards and trusted that she would always be protected and served.**

**But they served no one except themselves, cutting her ever deeper till she bled freely. She didn't die in a blaze of glory like the Valkery that she was but succumbed to her injuries with little more than a whimper or a mournful cry of, "Why?"**

**Her name was Liberty and we will forever pay the price of her passing.**

done to us," McMahon said. "They didn't really want to know anything about [Koresh]. They just wanted to know what happened with ATF. They said they were investigating the 'homicides,' the deaths on both sides and the conduct of the ATF."

Aguilera came in, read McMahon his rights, "and he asked me to sign a form to waive my rights. I said I wouldn't do that. He told me if I didn't, they were going to arrest me for conspiracy to commit murder," McMahon recalled. "I told him then I wanted to make a phone call. He began hollering at me, but he dials the number. Another ATF agent, Dave Littleton, came in and while I'm

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***The agents then asked McMahon if he knew Kilpatrick had been sleeping with Koresh and that Koresh had gonorrhoea. They also implied that Koresh slept with Kilpatrick's 18-year-old daughter.***

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trying to talk to my dad, they're both hollering into the phone, saying 'We're going to arrest your boy,' and 'Do you know what will happen to your boy in jail?'

"So Aguilera gets the phone and starts hollering at my dad. Then Aguilera gets up against the wall and covers the phone so I can't hear what he's saying. Then he turned around and looked at me and hung up the phone. That was my one phone call." The agents then asked McMahon if he knew Kilpatrick had been sleeping with Koresh and that Koresh had gonorrhoea. They also implied that Koresh slept with Kilpatrick's 18-year-old daughter.

One ATF agent, speaking as if taking McMahon into confidence, solemnly related how agent Littleton "had been trained to be able to smell it if anyone told a lie. I busted out laughing," McMahon said.

McMahon's grilling continued for hours. Kilpatrick's interrogation was even more terrifying. Her trips to the toilet were observed. She was given no lunch, so she finally asked for a canned soda, unopened, because "What if they put something in my drink? I was scared of ATF at that point."

ATF agent Littleton accused Kilpatrick of giving Koresh \$30,000, which she said was not true. He then threatened to arrest her for conspiracy to commit murder. "I told him to get it over with, that I was tired of being hollered at and called a liar, but in that case I wouldn't talk to him anymore. I told him we ought to talk about how ATF treated us. That pissed him off."

Kilpatrick further described her confrontation with the 6-foot-2-inch, 230-pound agent who was a foot taller and 100 pounds heavier than her: "He turned his baseball hat around backward, spun around and got right in my face, breathing real hard on me. He's hollering at me and I'm hollering at him and he's got his hat turned around and his fists balled up, like he's going to knock my lights out. Next thing I know, somebody came in behind him, grabbed him by the belt and pulled him out of the room. He had totally lost it."

Next, Littleton apparently headed down the hall to the

Continued on page 71



**A debate** — often acrimonious — has been raging for a decade now on whether or not optical sights should be installed on the M16 rifle. A decision finally seems to be close at hand; however, unless the correct scope concept is employed and the correct solution to the question of emergency iron sights chosen, we will have another military small-arms procurement fiasco on our hands.

Scopes mounted on the M16's carrying handle are too high and do not permit a proper cheek weld (spot weld) on the rifle's buttstock. Furthermore, the luggage-type handle on top of the M16 makes it too easy for troops to avoid carrying this weapon in the combat-ready

position at all times.

Colt has already manufactured a substantial number of M16 upper receivers without built-in carrying handles, yet with integral Weaver-style bases. However, any scope mounted directly to this rail will be too low, so that the use of special high rings is then necessary. Furthermore, emergency iron sights are not integral to this base and will be stowed in the soldier's load-bearing equipment. This latter situation is, to me, completely unacceptable and will only ensure that the emergency sights will eventually be discarded or lost.

Dick Swan (A.R.M.S. Inc., Dept. SOF, 230 W. Center St., West Bridgewater, MA 02379; phone: 508-

584-7816; fax: 508-588-8045), who has developed some of the best combat scope interfaces in the business (for everything from the FN FAL to the M136/FFV AT4 84mm light anti-armor weapon, along with the interface used to mount night-vision equipment on the Stinger missile) has, as usual, a much better idea.

All A.R.M.S. equipment is manufactured to U.S. milspec. Their aluminum-alloy "Swan Sleeve" slides over the Weaver-style base on an M16A3 upper receiver and is retained by friction fit and by two transverse roll pins. An allen-head screw at the front of the sleeve provides a mounting point for a specially designed M203 sight (normally attached to an



# MATCH-GRADE COMPACT CARBINE

## Aftermarket Accessories Upgrade Colt's M16A3 M4

Text & Photos by Peter G. Kokalis



Dynamite still comes in small packages: Combination of compact M4 envelope with 14.5-inch barrel, Swan Sleeve, U.S. Optics SN-4 Rapid Response scope and Black Hills match-grade ammunition produced 1/2-MOA groups.

M16's carrying handle).

The front portion of the Swan Sleeve consists of a Swan scope base (although developed by Swan, it is often incorrectly referred to as a "Picatinny rail"), which is dimensionally close to the Weaver-style base, but improved. The angular surfaces on the Swan base provide greater contact area with the scope mount. If this base is damaged, only a new sleeve unit must be installed, whereas if the rail on the M16A3 upper re-

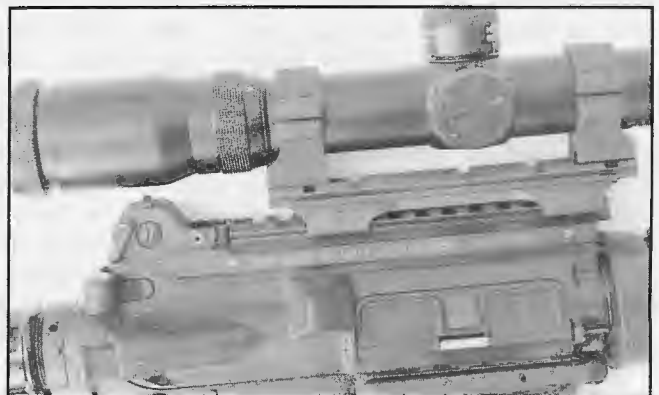
ceiver is damaged, then the entire upper receiver must be replaced.

At the rear of the Swan Sleeve is a permanently attached emergency rear sight. It's spring-loaded and held in the down position by a pivoting wire hook on the sleeve's right side. Apparently this method of holding down the sight is a prototype feature only, to be altered in production-series specimens. This rear sight has both battle-type and long-range, flip-up peep apertures. Windage is adjusted by a knob on the rear sight's left side. There is a windage scale at its rear. Because it is spring-loaded, this sight is not easily damaged, as it just rotates rearward when

struck by a hard blow.

An A.R.M.S. quick-release, throw-lever-type mount with 30mm rings was used to interface the base with the scope selected for *Soldier Of Fortune's* test and evaluation of this system. As the Swan Sleeve brings the scope up to a higher position than the rail on the M16A3 upper receiver,

Swan Sleeve slides over Weaver-style base on an M16A3 upper receiver. A.R.M.S. Inc. quick-release, throw-lever-type mount with 30mm rings was used to interface base with U.S. Optics SN-4 Rapid Response scope.

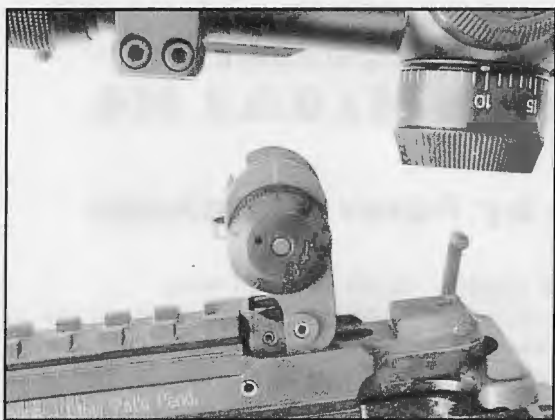


high rings are not necessary. Furthermore, this mount permits the operator to adjust the scope's eye relief to his individual requirements.

### Firing At The Whites Of Their Eyes

A low-power scope must be selected for infantry combat. It has been demonstrated — at least to my satisfaction — that any optical sight of more than 2X magnification will restrict the operator's field of view when facing dangerous moving targets, while unacceptably increasing the time required for target acquisition. A non-magnifying 1X scope is best for most fighting environments. In my opinion, this eliminates the otherwise superb ELCAN 3.4x28mm (manufactured by Hughes Leitz Technologies Ltd.) and the ACOG 3.5x35mm (manufactured by Trijicon Inc.).

United States Optics Technologies



A unique feature of the Swan Sleeve is a permanently attached emergency rear sight. Shown here in the up position, it's spring-loaded and held down by a pivoting wire hook on the right side.

Inc. (Dept. SOF, 1501 E. Chapman Ave., No. 306, Fullerton, CA 92631; phone: 714-879-8922; fax: 714-449-0941 — catalog \$4) manufactures entirely in the United States a scope meeting these specifications and then some. Called the Model SN-4 Rapid Response, this milspec 1X-to-4X variable is the world's first non-variable, center-of-impact, front-reticle variable power scope. That's a confusing mouthful — what it means is this: The reticle pattern — a dot in a circle — is similar to that found on the Steyr AUG police model and on the Swarovski (maker of the AUG scope) Cobra scope. It's non-breakable and etched (not wired as are most others)

on the objective lens (two massive pieces of sandwiched glass).

As the SN-4's power knob (now significantly improved from the earliest specimens tested by SOF) is turned up to 4X, the dot in the circle becomes a long-range precision aiming point. When turned down to 1X, the dot fades into the circle's background. The reticle thus becomes either a large, fast-aiming dot at the higher magnifications or a small aiming circle at the lower magnifications. Target size can be determined at any range or magnification, as the dot subtends 3 inches at any power or range; the outer diameter of the circle subtends 4 feet and the inner diameter subtends 3 feet. As the size of the reticle compared to the target stays the same at any power and only the field of view changes, the SN-4's accuracy and point of impact remain constant.

This 10-element system employs a 35mm ocular lens and a 20mm objective lens. All lenses are made from high-refraction, multi-coated BK-7 optical glass. At 100 yards, the field of view is 31.2 feet with 4X magnification. That field of view is maintained at 1X magnification from a distance of 115 feet — a wider field of view than provided by most high-quality European scopes. With an overall length of 9.45 inches and a maximum diameter of 1.89 inches, the SN-4 weighs 13.75 ounces.

The main tube, fabricated from 6061 T6 aluminum alloy and hard-anodized in black, olive drab or silver (clear), has a 30mm diameter. Why? Most U.S. scopes are housed in 1-inch tubes. A 30mm tube with a 1/8-inch wall thickness still has almost 30% more cross-sectional area inside the tube than most 1-inch tubes with their much thinner walls. Once this additional area is available, the erector tube inside the scope body (which carries all lenses except the ocular and objective lenses) and its lenses can be increased in size to gather more light and thus yield greater resolution and a brighter image. Furthermore, this heavy 30mm housing is more shock-

resistant than any 1-inch tube.

Eye relief, an often neglected parameter in scope evaluations, is long and forgiving at 3.35 to 4.33 inches (85mm to 110mm).

Parallax occurs when the primary image of an objective lens does not coincide with the reticle. It has been set at the U.S. Optics factory for a target at 100 yards, but any distance can be specified by the user and the Model SN-4 can be returned for this readjustment.

In an emergency, parallax can be adjusted by the user. Warm the glue holding the front-end cover bezel and unscrew it. Then turn the entire lens housing in (for farther ranges), or out (for closer ranges) — one or two turns is sufficient — to focus and set the parallax for any range. Move your head up, down and sideways while the scope is resting on a shooting bench, pointing toward a target posted at the range you wish to set the parallax for. If the target and reticle appear to move in relation to each other, rotate the lens housing until this phenomenon disappears.

### Bullet-Drop Bypass

The scope submitted to us for test and evaluation was equipped with a "Bullet Drop Compensator" (BDC). After the scope has been adjusted for elevation zero at 100 yards, simply turning the elevation knob to the known target distance (out to 600 yards) will place the round at the point of aim, provided the projectile and charge weight — for which trajectory the compensator has been calibrated — are employed (in this instance, the difference between the trajectory path of 5.56x45mm M193 and M855 military ball ammunition is so insignificant that the BDC spool provided can be used with either).

The band that goes around the BDC knob is called a "spool." Blank spools can be provided for custom calibration by the operator. The tops of the knobs are beveled to inhibit accidental rotation during removal from a case or drag bag. Elevation and windage zero are obtained by unscrewing the knob covers with a coin, then turning the adjustment screws with a coin in the appropriate directions. Each audible click (optional 1-, 1/2- or 1/4-minute of travel) of either adjustment screw will move the point of impact (up or down, right



or left) 1-, 1/2- or 1/4-inch at 100 yards, respectively.

Some users desire coarser adjustments (i.e., 1 minute) at shorter ranges for combat scopes, especially with cartridges like the 5.56x45 mm NATO. To handle this, U.S. Optics can provide any of its scope models matched to any specifications a user requires.

There are, for example, other knob options. The large, oversized and so-called "ergonomic" knobs, presently so fashionable in U.S. Marine Corps sniping circles, are available with the BDC knob system or with a 1/4-minute external knob system. A standard 1/4-minute-click adjustable system with screw-on caps that require no coins for adjustment is also available.

In addition, a large number of reticle patterns are offered, with further options for user-designed reticle systems available as well. Other accessories include sunshades, shock-resistant shrouds, fitted wooden cases and lit reticle modules. A standard Model SN-4 Rapid Response scope with either a .223 or .308 BDC elevation knob costs only \$505. That's well under costs for barely equivalent Zeiss, Swarovski, Kahles or Hensoldt models.

All U.S. Optics scopes are provided with a limited lifetime warranty including a no-charge service policy, provided repairs have not been attempted by anyone else. The scopes also come with a set of front and rear Butler Creek flip-up lens caps.

To push the test-and-evaluation envelope to the maximum extent possible, this sight system was installed on a selective-fire Colt M16A3 in the M4 Carbine configuration. This model, now type-classified by both the Marine Corps and the U.S. Army, was designed for applications wherein compactness is a primary consideration, i.e., for use by armored vehicle crews and special operations units.

The M4's 14.5-inch barrel is stepped to accept the M203 40mm grenade launcher. Its handguards are those designed for the CAR-15 (which was given the U.S. Army type designation of XM177E2) in 1966 — as is its telescoping buttstock. In all other regards (except for the carrying handle and its 800-meter rear sight, which have been omitted) the M4's features are those of the M16A2 rifle.

With the buttstock collapsed, the M4 Carbine has an overall length of

## M16A3 M4 CARBINE SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Caliber:</b> .....	5.56x45mm NATO — M855 ball and M856 tracer ammunition.
<b>Operation:</b> .....	Gas — direct, no piston; rotary bolt with eight lugs (seven locking); selective-fire trigger mechanism.
<b>Cyclic rate:</b> .....	700 to 900 rpm.
<b>Feed mechanism:</b> .....	20- and 30-round staggered-column detachable box-type magazines.
<b>Weight, empty:</b> .....	8.5 pounds — including optical sight system.
<b>Overall length:</b> .....	With buttstock extended: 33 3/8 inches — with buttstock collapsed: 30 1/8 inches.
<b>Barrel length:</b> .....	14.5 inches.
<b>Barrel:</b> .....	6-groove with a right-hand twist of one turn in 7 inches.
<b>Sights:</b> .....	Front — protected square post, adjustable for elevation zero; emergency rear — spring-loaded, held in down position with pivoting wire hook; both long-range and battle-type flip-up peep apertures, with windage adjustment by knob on left side. U.S. Optics Model SN-4 Rapid Response 1X-to-4X variable-power combat scope interfaced to Swan base by quick-release, throw-lever-type mount with 30mm rings.
<b>Furniture:</b> .....	Black synthetic handguards and pistol grip; retractable buttstock, either synthetic or black-enameled aluminum alloy.
<b>Finish:</b> .....	7075 T6 aluminum-alloy upper and lower receivers: hardcoat-anodized to milspec MIL-A-8625 Type III Class 2; steel components: phosphate-finished.
<b>Manufacturer:</b> .....	Colt's Manufacturing Co. Inc., Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 1868, Hartford, CT 06144-1868; phone: 203-236-6311.
<b>Accessory suppliers:</b> .....	Optical sight interface: A.R.M.S. Inc., Dept. SOF, 230 W. Center St., West Bridgewater, MA 02379; phone: 508-584-7816, fax: 508-588-8045.
<b>Scope:</b> .....	United States Optics Technologies Inc., Dept. SOF, 1501 E. Chapman Avenue, No. 306, Fullerton, CA 92631; phone: 714-879-8922, fax: 714-449-0941.
<b>Ammunition:</b> .....	Black Hills Ammunition, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 3090, Rapid City, SD 57709; phone: 605-348-5150; fax: 605-348-9827.
<b>Patrol sling system:</b> .....	JFS Inc., Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 12204, Salem, OR 97309; phone: 800-477-3244.
<b>Buttplate texturing:</b> .....	K.J. Ryan, Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 16280, Pittsburgh, PA 15242-6280.
<b>ACCU-Wedge:</b> .....	Kleen-Bore, Dept. SOF, 20 Ladd Ave., Northampton, MA 01060; phone: 800-445-0301.
<b>T&amp;E summary:</b> .....	M4 Carbine provides an excellent and useful compact version of a battle-proven series of infantry rifles. Swan Sleeve and U.S. Optics SN-4 Rapid Response scope, when combined with match-grade ammunition, provided incredible accuracy.



M16A3 M4 Carbine, fieldstripped.

30.125 inches. Pulling the buttstock out to the firing position adds another 3¼ inches. The weight, empty, is only 6 pounds. However, with the scope, mount and sleeve, the weight goes up to 8.5 pounds.

### Silent, Deadly Sling

The standard-issue black nylon sling is inadequate for patrol carry with any of the M16-series weapons. When patrolling, the weapon should be carried at waist level by a sling system permitting instant, but completely silent, target acquisition, followed with aimed fire from the shoulder.

Developed and perfected over a period of years for this purpose by JFS Inc., a patrol sling (No. BP52-BK, a complete sling system for M16s, featuring a retractable buttstock) and an adapter kit (No. QC16CON, for all models with rigid buttstocks and requires the issue sling) are available (JFS Inc., Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 12204, Salem, OR 97309; phone: 800-477-3244) utilizing easily installed

front and rear adapter pieces. All of my M16-type rifles are so equipped and I recommend these sling systems without reservations of any kind. Adopted by the Marine Corps, the JFS patrol sling adapter kit (Marine Corps-assigned stock No. 1005-01-339-3335) saw action in both Panama and during Desert Storm.

The buttplate on CAR-15-type retractable buttstocks does not, in my opinion, provide a sufficient gripping surface. K.J. Ryan (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 16280, Pittsburgh, PA 15242-6280) has developed a textured material that he custom-fits to these buttplates. He painstakingly hand-cuts a checkered piece of neoprene which is then carefully bonded onto the buttplate using a proprietary high-strength adhesive.

Ryan's textured surface helps to secure the weapon to the shoulder of an operator who wears Nomex tactical coveralls and/or body armor; additionally, it provides an almost Velcro-like grip to the shoulder no matter what type of clothing is worn. When applied to the CAR-15-type buttplate, it also eliminates the abrasive edge around the large buffer-tube opening. Ryan leaves a small hole in the CAR-15 buttplate to allow for the passage of air when collapsing or extending the stock. The cost for this treatment, called Posi-Grip

Texturing, is \$22.50 and I recommend it highly.

One final factor was added to our M16A3 M4 Carbine equation at the recommendation of J. D. Jones, the highly regarded handgun-hunting authority and writer who pulls no punches. All too often there is excessive play between the M16 series' upper and lower receivers. Exactly

how much this affects the weapon's accuracy potential is the subject of some debate. It would certainly seem that running a tight ship will plot a truer course.

With this in mind, we installed a Kleen-Bore (Dept. SOF, 20 Ladd Ave., Northampton, MA 01060; phone: 800-445-0301) Model No. ACU-1 AR-15/M16 ACCU-Wedge — no modifications are required for installation. Just drop the wedge, which is injection-molded of a bright-red rubbery synthetic material, into the circular cavity at the rear of the lower receiver. Squeeze the upper and lower receivers together and push the rear retaining pin into place.

None of this would be worth a hoot without ammunition of match-grade quality. Most M855/SS109-type

62-grain military ball — designed for the M4 Carbine's 1:7-inch-twist barrel — at best provides only mediocre accuracy potential.

Since assessing the accuracy potential of this system was the primary objective of SOF's test and evaluation, ammunition of previously established match-grade accuracy was selected. Black Hills Ammunition's (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 3090, Rapid City, SD 57709; phone: 605-348-5150) 60-grain Soft Point .223 Remington (5.56x45mm NATO) ammunition has performed with outstanding accuracy in previous SOF tests of the M16 series. However, because of its exposed lead-alloy tip, it will not always feed with reliability into an M16 and can initiate the well-known "bolt-over-base" M16-type stoppage. Whether this is the fault of the projectile shape or the infamous M16 magazine is a moot question.

### Stellar Shot Groups

When fired from the bench at a range of 100 yards, our M16A3 M4 Carbine with its 14.5-inch barrel will consistently shoot ½-inch groups! That's incredible accuracy on anyone's scorecard and bordering on the unbelievable. Hell, most heavy-barreled, bolt-action varmint rifles will not shoot this well. More to the point, there isn't a single Kalashnikov out of the more than 50 million produced that will shoot even 2 MOA. AKs average between 4 to 8 MOA — or 6 MOA and under only if you're lucky.

The M4 configuration is an excellent and useful compact version of a battle-proven series of infantry rifles. The ugly wound profile produced by fragmenting M193/855 5.56x45mm bullets at the distances most often associated with modern combat cannot be denied, except by those self-designated "authorities" writing for the popular gun press.

The U.S. Optics SN-4 Rapid Response scope, along with Dick Swan's sleeve with its slick emergency sight system and his superb quick-release mount, which holds to zero despite repeated removal and reinstallation, all help to provide the all-important edge in equipment superiority — the edge required to tip the balance for survival on the battlefield in your favor. To those of us who have been in the trenches, that's worth whatever it costs.✕



JFS Inc. patrol sling installed on M16A3 M4 Carbine permits waist-level carry and instant target acquisition with aimed fire from the shoulder.



# CALL TO ARMS

## Pentagon Lt. Col. Blocks Awards to Combat Vets

by Greg Walker

**El Salvador's** 12-year civil war was fought at close range against the Marxist guerrilla armies of the FMLN. Ronald Reagan's administration made it perfectly clear America would draw a line in the jungle against further communist aggression in Latin America, and that this line would be in El Salvador.

The awarding of four Joint Meritorious Unit Citations — a non-combat award — to the United States Military Group El Salvador for “exceptionally meritorious service or achievement,” acknowledges the fact this war was fought “under extraordinary circumstances that involve the national interests.”

Still, full and appropriate combat recognition for our U.S. veterans of the war in this Central American country has yet to be authorized, despite overwhelming evidence that combat actions took place.

Spearheading the campaign to see such recognition denied is Lieutenant Colonel Patricia A. Sigle, chief of the Military Awards branch within the Department of the Army. For nearly two years now, Sigle has issued a series of formal responses which discredit, dishonor and misinform both the public and members of the House and Senate. Most recently, she has aimed her staff's typewriters at the veterans of Somalia (See “Worst Kind of War,” *SOF* Sept. '93). Yet the colonel's own chief of special projects, Major Michael Wawrzyniak, offers that Sigle's military awards program is “fraught with abuse and wrongfully placed recognition” (See “Shot Down by SouthCom,” *SOF* June '93), where combat recognition is the issue at stake.

Sigle's peers have come out to challenge her office's failure to truthfully address the issue. Lieutenant Colonel Nancy E. Henderson served in El Salvador as a rehabilitation adviser from August 1989 to January



During FMLN's *ofensiva final* in November 1989, U.S. Army nurse Capt. Nelly Aleman-Guzman was wounded by sniper fire in San Salvador “safe” house. She was denied a Purple Heart as it would not have been politically expedient to admit we had female personnel in a combat zone. Photo: Lt. Col. Nancy E. Henderson

1990, during which time she personally witnessed the reality of combat for U.S. military personnel, to include treating American wounded.

In November of 1989, then-Captain Henderson and her medical team came under direct fire from FMLN guerrilla units attempting to capture San Salvador during one of the most vicious offensives of the war. During this assault, Capt. (now-Maj.) Nelly Aleman-Guzman was wounded by a sniper when their “safe” house came under fire. Although the event was documented, to include a videotaping of the captain's wounds, her formal recommendation for a Purple Heart was denied. Had it not been, Aleman-Guzman would have been the first Army nurse authorized this combat-connected award since the Vietnam War.

“In contrast to the highly publicized invasions of Grenada, Panama, and Iraq/Kuwait, our involvement in El Salvador has been kept out of the political spotlight,” writes Henderson. “Military members who served in El Salvador experienced personal hardship, high risk, and at times the supreme sacrifice ... I suspect Lt. Col. Sigle has never been

there [in a combat environment].”

To date, the grassroots effort to see full and appropriate combat recognition extended to the more than 5,000 U.S. conventional and special operations military personnel who served has reaped an impressive harvest. Formal support comes from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, including generals Carl Stiner, Fred Woerner and John Galvin. At the congressional level, Sen. Robert Packwood, R-Ore., has endorsed such recognition, and most recently congressmen Robert Dornan, R-Calif., and Dan Burton, R-Ind., have made formal inquiries as to why such recognition is not forthcoming.

In researching the most effective manner in which to reverse this vicious and irresponsible awards policy taken by Sigle's staff, *SOF* consulted with Andy Messing of the National Defense Council in Washington, D.C. “Urge your readership to contact their senators and congressmen directly,” encouraged Messing, himself a decorated Vietnam veteran. “Once they begin bringing political heat down on those obstructing such recognition,

*Continued on page 67*



# SARAJEVO'S BODY SNATCHERS

**Dodging military** service in Sarajevo has become a perilous game of cat and mouse, with the losers being press-ganged at gunpoint by teams of Bosnian military police to dig trenches along the front lines.

The military police teams — made up of soldiers from the Bosnian army's 10th Mountain Brigade — regularly prowl the cafes, theaters and bomb-scarred streets of Sarajevo in search of men not registered for active military service.

Senior officers within the Bosnian military admit that upwards of 40% of all men eligible for military service (between 18 and 45 years old) are not currently registered with the army.

Those apprehended and unable to produce the necessary papers are driven off to the nearest police station, processed and then marched up to the steep, treeless ravines of Mount Trebevic — site of the 1984 Winter Olympic bobsled run — now scene to some of the most brutal fighting between Muslim and Serbian forces in central Bosnia.

There, detainees are handed picks and shovels and taken to within 50 meters of Serbian frontline positions, where they spend 12 hours a day, under sometimes murderous combat conditions, preparing slit trenches for soldiers of the 10th Mountain Brigade.

"We had just finished a perfor-



Satory Sarajevo — some of Bosnia's finest and youngest pose with a *Jane's* assortment of weapons. Identifiable in center row from left to right are Yugo M70B1 rifle in 7.62x39mm with grenade launcher attached, 12-gauge riot gun, H&K MP5 SD3 suppressed submachine gun with optical sights, Yugo M70AB2 folding-stock rifle in 7.62x39mm, and Yugo M56 7.62x25mm submachine gun. In front row is Yugo M70AB2 folding-stock rifle sans integral grenade sight, Yugo M72AB1 light machine gun, older scoped Mannlicher-type bolt-action hunting rifle, unidentifiable AK, and unidentifiable Browning-type pistol.

mance of our newest production," recalled Boban Nikolic, 43, a well-known theater director in Sarajevo. "They [members of the 10th Mountain Brigade] took me and nine others, including my first actor and choreographer."

Nikolic said that after being processed and marched up to Mount Trebevic, he was greeted by a scene that resembled his imagined "vision of hell."

"There were about 15 men, some of whom I knew, digging trenches

directly in front of me. They looked terrible. I was trembling," Nikolic said.

Nikolic said those trying to escape were quickly hunted down, beaten or shot and made to return to the trenches if their wounds were not life-threatening.

"Our day began at seven in the morning and ended at seven in the night," he said. "We did whatever we were told. At night the Serbs would yell at us and tell us to leave our positions, while firing over our heads."



"We were placed between the Serb lines and the 10th Mountain Brigade," Nikolic said. "When shooting would start, we would bend down and hope that none of us would be hurt."

Considered one of Bosnia's elite fighting units, the 10th Mountain Brigade is controlled by Musan Topalovic, a former folk singer turned ultra-nationalist who fights under the *nom de guerre* of Caco (pronounced "Zatso").

### Defending From The Defenders

Just how potent a fighting force the much-feared 10th Mountain Bri-

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## Local Commanders "Recruit" Draft Dodgers

**Text & Photos by Mark H. Milstein**

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gade has become was recently demonstrated when word leaked that Topalovic and his second-in-command, Sedan Pecar, were to be arrested on orders from the Bosnian presidency on as-of-then publicly unspecified charges.

When Topalovic learned that Pecar had been brought in for questioning, nearly 200 members of the 10th Mountain Brigade sealed off Sarajevo's old town and began simultaneous small arms, rocket-propelled grenade and mortar assaults on three Sarajevo police stations in an attempt to free Pecar.

Nearly 12 hours later, the 10th Mountain Brigade held the three police stations; one policeman was reported killed, dozens of civilian casualties filled the hospitals — and Pecar was a free man.

It did not take the Serbian forces looking down from mountainside po-

sitions long to try and take advantage of the mayhem.

While the 10th Mountain Brigade laid siege to Sarajevo's old town, Serbian artillery rained down a nearly endless barrage of heavy artillery, rocket and mortar fire on the rest of the city — a grim reminder that without people like Topalovic, the capital might already have fallen into Serbian hands.

But the embattled Bosnian government now faces the dilemma of how to enforce discipline within army ranks without undermining its own defenses, which are already stretched thin warding off the Serbian forces that encircle Sarajevo.

Confronted early on in the 16-month-long civil war with the threat of annihilation, Bosnian officials openly courted the aid of many of Sarajevo's known criminals to defend the city from Serbian occupation.

This decision, admits Sarajevo Mayor Muhamed Kresevljakovic, might haunt all Bosnians for years to come. "We needed men like that at the start of the war," Kresevljakovic admitted. "Without them, perhaps we would have all died. We knew they were criminals, yes, but they were ready to defend us."

### A Second Enemy Within

"But they are quite dangerous now," he continued, "because they were first able to integrate themselves into the regular army and now they are so powerful they can go outside of the chain of command."

Kresevljakovic claimed that once the Serbian blockade of Sarajevo is lifted, officials will deal with any possible crimes committed by men like Topalovic with the aid of a special prosecutor.

"We're not dependent on men like Topalovic to defend us," the mayor



Peace? No, victory! — this is the Balkans. Bosnian armed with scoped, suppressed H&K MP5 SD3 submachine gun flashes the sign.

said. "We just risk more now trying to take them in than if we leave them alone temporarily."

Up until the most recent clash, however, Topalovic enjoyed a "see-no-evil, hear-no-evil" relationship with many insiders of the Bosnian presidency.

His tactics, while viewed by some Bosnians as draconian, are fully sanctioned by the Bosnian military command.

"The Ministry of Defense has hired others such as Ramis 'Celo' Delalic, one of the city's big Mafia bosses, to go to clubs looking for men," said one Sarajevo bar owner.

Adi Mulahlilovic, 26, owner of the Cafe Baccara, recalled numerous run-ins with Topalovic and Delalic, both of whom he said visited his bar looking for draft dodgers.

Himself a soldier, Mulahlilovic said, "I just asked them not to ruin my business. I realize it is hard to get men into the army, and I guess this is the only way to do it."

*Mark H. Milstein, foreign correspondent for Atlantic News Service, linked up with SOF publisher R. K. Brown on his recent trip to the former Yugoslavia. ✕*



# CITY OF RUMORS



Arriving at Sarajevo's airport, this U.S. Army major's expression says it all: "What the hell is going on?"  
Photo: Patrick Chauvel

Inset: Coming under fire, Bosnian 10th Mountain Brigade soldiers rush to cover. Odds favor them: Serb snipers more often target and hit civilians than troops.  
Photo: Mark H. Milstein

# CITY OF DEATH

*Hang around the lobby bar in the Hotel Split on Croatia's Dalmatian coast long enough and every journalist and "wannabe" covering the Balkan war will eventually drift through. If you have a drink or coffee with the better ones, you'll hear some good stories and frank talk that never make it to print or the evening news.*



The following is derived from just such a session between *Soldier Of Fortune* Editor/Publisher Robert K. Brown and a well-known British war correspondent known here as Ian Archer. Also joining in was a Dutch journalist known here as Lars DeRuyter. Some of their conversation has been paraphrased or edited for clarity.

**RKB:** Ian, you've covered this war since it began. What's going on?

**Archer:** I'm still trying to understand what's happening here in Bosnia. If you try to understand what's happening here, you become crazy, and if you *do* understand, that means you *are* crazy. So it keeps turning 'round and 'round in my mind.

**RKB:** You've said this is a crazier war than any war you've ever seen.

**Archer:** Yeah. First of all, there's a moving front all the time. And you have three sides. You usually have two sides, the bad guy and the good guy. This time everybody's bad — they change all the time. Sometimes you're welcome because they need you. And then something happens and the next week they hate you.

**RKB:** Give me a couple of examples.

**Archer:** In the beginning, the Muslims showed the press around, protected us and tried to use us because they were the victims. The Serbs hated us and the Croats were pretty much friends with us because during the fall of Vukovar we supported them. The Serbs were the big bad guys.

Then the Muslims realized they were being screwed anyway, with or without the help of the press, so they started hating us. They didn't see the point of helping us anymore. They tried to provoke a reaction by shooting at the press, and they did it several times saying it was the other guys.

And then the Foreign Legion got shelled and sniped by the Muslims, who claimed it was the Serbs. But the legion knew from the caliber, distance and direction of the fire that it was the Muslims. Most of the sniping is Muslim.

**DeRuyter:** This thing has been

going on for two-and-a-half years, and at this point all three parties are convinced of the inefficiency and the weakness of the West. We came here to do a job. We didn't do the job and we didn't follow through on our threats. We didn't follow through on anything. And we put ourselves in this totally crazy situation of having troops on the ground being shut out of any meaningful role in ending the conflict and having our field commanders saying, "Don't shoot at us or we'll go home."



Bosnian army special policeman stands at ready with Yugoslav 44mm M57 anti-tank launcher behind gutted parliament building in Sarajevo. Photo: Mark H. Milstein

**Archer:** Which is exactly what they want.

**DeRuyter:** It's the same thing for the press. The Muslims tried to use us when we were writing stories they liked. But when they did the same things as the Serbs and we wrote about it, they realized we would tell what we saw. They were used to the communist system where the press will always lie for its own party.

That's why they started shooting at the press. They're used to a partial press — a Croat press, a Serb press, a Muslim press, all lying. It's not a matter of being crooked. That's just

the way it's done. The press is a political weapon. They don't know that for us it's different, so they shoot. If we're on the other side it means we're pro-Muslim, so the Serbs shoot at us.

It's the communist system. The press works for the system and they think we're the same. So when they see our car on the other side, "Bang!" — and when they see my car on this side and my friend's on the other side, then he's a traitor, "Bang!"

The Croats, they were friends with us until they got some bad press, then they got pissed.

We tried to explain that we didn't turn on them, that *they* made the mistake. But we're betraying them, so *everybody's* shooting at us now. The whole thing is ridiculous.

The Muslims in Sarajevo are very hard to work with. They think we're useless. They've showed us a lot of things, but nothing has changed. Plus they think that we're giving their positions to the Serbs — by publishing a picture of a sniper position.

They have the philosophy of a loser. They know they're surrounded and they need us. We're their last hope. If we take pictures of them, maybe they won't

all die. But as soon as they feel stronger, it doesn't work. It's when they're losing that they need you.

**Archer:** The most honest of the three have been, in their own way, the Serbs. They hate our guts, make no secret of it and have never changed. They always say, "We're going to bomb you." They keep pushing and nothing's happening to them, so they're winning.

**DeRuyter:** The Muslims see the press as part of the Western intervention here and, in a way, they're right. And they see the failure of that intervention, the lack of will, as justify-

ing their anger toward the press.

**RKB:** *Ian, you've said that this war seems to draw all the crazies of the world.*

**Archer:** It's inexpensive to get here. It's close to a lot of countries — Austria, Italy, Spain, France, England. All these guys can afford to come here. Usually they hitchhike down on trucks to Split to try to make a name for themselves or get good pictures and make some money. Lots of these guys don't know if they're mercs or photographers. The only American "merc" in Sarajevo, he didn't want to talk.

**RKB:** *You said that even drivers for the humanitarian organizations are questionable.*

**Archer:** A lot of them are — like those Italian guys that got blasted off the road the other day. I'm not saying there was a reason for that, but it's real strange, the lack of reaction after that. Like the people that should have reacted knew something we didn't.

**DeRuyter:** They weren't in a U.N. convoy.

**RKB:** *Who were they allegedly working for?*

**Archer:** An Italian humanitarian aid effort from three villages. A fanatic Catholic group. The next day, maybe two days later, some press in the area got aimed at with AKs by some very shaky and nervous locals, who more or less admitted they were the guys who killed the Italians. And they said, "No pictures or we'll kill you."

**Ma Deuce in Sarajevo.** Serb forces have virtually unlimited supplies of ammo, while Bosnian defenders must depend on minuscule amounts of small-arms ammo smuggled to the front lines. Here Serb gunner mans Browning .50-caliber on Sarajevo's outskirts. Photo: Patrick Chauvel



They said they killed the Italians because they were carrying weapons. It's no secret that there are guns and ammunition going in through some humanitarian aid convoys. We don't know who exactly, but there's something like that going on.

Nobody knows who is doing what. How can you control it? You don't know how many humanitarian aid groups are here. Along the coast, south of here about 10 kilometers, you've got private villas along the beach, probably about 30 of them. Every

one of them is a different humanitarian aid villa. They all have new jeeps, air conditioning, and each organization wants better jeeps than the other one.

It's bullshit. It pisses you off, the money they spend. Then you go to Mostar and you see this kid dying and his mother says, "Can you help me get him out? He's not a fighter, he's 6 years old." And you say, "I'll try."

You go to the U.N. and they say they can't do anything. It's not their mission. So you go to the European Community, then the Red Cross. They say you have to call Geneva. And the kid has 24 hours to live.

They've all got armored cars that are worth \$100,000 and nobody wants

to help you. You can't find anybody responsible; everyone says, "It's not my job, I'm only driving."

Nobody talks. They all say, "Call Geneva, call New York, call Paris." They're not responsible. They're here because they have a fucked-up life in their own country. They took drugs and they want to forget about it, or

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## **It's no secret that there are guns and ammunition going in through some humanitarian aid convoys. How can you control it?**

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their wife left them, or bankruptcy and they come here and think they serve a purpose — and some do, and they forget about their miserable own life. They're ready to take risks, but they don't take *that much* risk — they've got incredible equipment, armored cars. They're costing someone a fortune to be here and most of the time you see them here along the coast, very well-tanned, not doing shit.

**DeRuyter:** But it is only a symptom of the whole picture. You have a situation with so many ideological fault lines. It's like a free-fall — chaos, no plan. Not at a political level or at a military level. People fall through the cracks. There are so many cracks in this thing, because there is no clear vision, no goal.

### **Dateline: Death**

*(At this point, the conversation shifted to journalists killed covering the war.)*

**RKB:** *The body count of journalists has been pretty high in this war. Is this because of the craziness, the lack of vision?*

**Archer:** Well, I'll give you an example. A journalist I knew, he's dead now. Happened right at the beginning of the war, in Sarajevo. He was one of the first casualties. There were two other photographers inside his car, burned alive. This guy had all kinds of badges and a leather jacket, and this is not the look to have here. Wear black like the old women.

**DeRuyter:** There's enough space here that anybody can do anything.

**Archer:** But an RPG will stop you.





The only new construction in this war-torn land takes place in cemeteries like this one in rural Bosnia. Photo: Patrick Chauvel

This guy went straight toward the Serb lines, crossing Sarajevo airport in the middle of a raging battle with his black jeep, his fuel containers on its top, antennas sticking up and a guy hanging on the roof, and they just blew them off the earth.

**RKB:** *They had a guy on the top of their jeep going across the airport?*

**Archer:** Yeah.

**RKB:** *What did they blow them up with?*

**Archer:** Tank — heavy machine gun. The jeep burned for three hours in the middle of nowhere and everybody watched it burn.

**RKB:** *Do you find a lot of would-be journalists — wannabes — here?*

**Archer:** The problem here is you have all kinds of people drawn to this conflict. They want to be something, but they don't know what. Mercenaries, humanitarians, photographers, whatever opportunity they think there is. They just want to be somebody else. They put us in danger and themselves.

**DeRuyter:** Because they're ready to do anything to be famous. So they'll lie, they'll fake a picture, they'll take a gun and start shooting and then jump in a car marked "press," and somebody will see them do that. So the next guy that comes with a car that says "press" gets blown off the road.

**RKB:** *Have there actually been so-called journalists who have taken part in the fighting?*

**Archer:** Yeah, during the Croatian war. They carried fighters from point to point in a car with "press" written all over it.

**DeRuyter:** The laws here are so much heavier than they were in Croatia. In Croatia, you could rent a car and drive to the front. Now you've got to get yourself in and out of central Bosnia. You may need an armored car to do this, and it's a logistical nightmare. So when you get to central Bosnia, you meet fewer of those characters in the press corps.

**Archer:** In Vitez you won't meet that kind of guy. They don't have the means to get there. You don't see any phony "humanitarian aid," either. In Vitez, the bad area, you'll see real humanitarian-aid workers driving broken jeeps with bullet holes through them. There's a big difference between them and the guys here getting a sustan.

An American guy, Jack Waters [pseudonym] got his car shot up. When he comes here, you maybe see him three days. He takes a

shower, eats and he's gone again. Not like the guys you see every day at the Hotel Split.

When you go to Mostar, you see all kinds of photographers that don't talk, don't have any badges. You don't know who the hell they are, or even if they're Croat or English or whatever.

**RKB:** *Who do you think they are?*

**Archer:** Nobody, just guys trying. Who knows?

**DeRuyter:** In the beginning, they gave press cards to anybody. Those cards mean little in terms of accredita-

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**...civilians are primary targets... The snipers are killing grandmothers and children.**

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tion. On top of this there's a little factory that makes fake cards. It's hard to get out of tight places here. One of the ways is the press card and, like anywhere, money can buy anything.

A guy was in love with this girl and wanted to get her out of Sarajevo, so he buys a press card for her. You'd be amazed by the amount of deals that are happening between Muslims



and Serbs. They range from food to gasoline, sometimes ammunition. Money will buy anything. People will make deals.

**Archer:** A classic example is a guy named Luka, maybe of Herzegovinian blood. Luka was at our chalet and he got a call from a Muslim he was fighting. And the Muslim guy said, "Hey Luka, we're going to kill you, gouge your eyes out and cut your balls off." Then he asked, "By the way, have you seen my mother lately?"

And Luka said, "Yeah, she's OK."

Then the Muslim repeats how he's going to cut Luka up and in the same sentence asks, "And by the way, can you lend her 500 marks?"

Luka answers, "If you want, I can lend her a thousand."

And the Muslim said "Good, I'll pay you back next time I see you."

**RKB:** *What is this guy Luka doing now?*

**Archer:** He's on holiday somewhere. He loves the press. He's on the coast having a holiday with his bodyguards.

**RKB:** *While the fighting is going on?*

**Archer:** He doesn't have a job. Nobody wants him anymore, because he's changed sides so many times.

**RKB:** *How does he support himself?*

**Archer:** He fights. He was the chief of the pimps in Sarajevo and defended the city with all his crooks, and they fought well. Made a fortune. Then he became a little too powerful and the official government pushed him out of the way. There were gun battles between his militia and the regular army of Bosnians.

They tried to kill him, the Muslim government, so he joined the Croats. I don't know where he is now. All we hear are stories.

You're going to find everything here. The range is so vast — from some guy who pretends to be the French consul and lives in a car outside the Holiday Inn in Sarajevo, to German mercenaries who initially went to the side of the Croats and then joined Bosnian forces and found themselves in Tuzla, to British ex-soldiers who joined some humanitarian aid group.

**DeRuyter:** I was waiting for a plane at Sarajevo airport once. Sarajevo airport, it's called the "Maybe Airline." Maybe it will fly



## TUNNEL OF HOPE

Sarajevo should have strangled by now. Serbian gunners have laid siege to the city for nearly two years, cutting off overland access except for smugglers' routes over the mountains to the west and southwest. Yet somehow the city refuses to die.

I met a French photographer in central Bosnia who traveled with a Muslim supply train over one of those routes, and he couldn't believe the Muslims were keeping Sarajevo supplied with food, ammunition and fuel by what they packed on their backs over those rugged, forested mountains. Well, it turns out there is another hole in the siege line — literally.

According to John Burns of *The New York Times* (15 Aug 93), who quotes accounts in a Croatian newspaper, the Muslims have dug a narrow tunnel under no-man's-land

in the vicinity of Sarajevo airport. The tunnel, reportedly about 700 meters long, is only wide enough to allow one-way traffic, while its ceiling is so low that a man must duck to move through it. There is no ventilation system, communications or lighting.

Despite these limitations, the Muslims are moving ammunition through the tunnel to fighters in Sarajevo and are evacuating wounded soldiers on stretchers from the battle lines around Mount Igman to hospitals in the city. Military users have first priority for the tunnel, forcing many civilians fleeing the city to make nighttime dashes across the airport, through the fields of fire from Serb snipers.

—C. F.







Sarajevo's airport, secured by French Foreign Legion's 2nd REP, provides access for minimum amount of food and medicine to sustain the city's populace. Aircraft like this Soviet-made Ilyushin Il-76 transport plane must fly in the groceries. Photo: R.K.Brown

Inset: U.N. troops from 35 countries are the "thin red line" between civilians and warring factions. Rules of engagement preclude peacekeepers from returning fire unless they are taking casualties. Photo: R. K. Brown

today, and maybe it won't. The customs guys will stamp "Maybe Airline" on your passport if you ask.

Anyway, I was waiting for a plane and the UNPROFOR military police chief, a Russian, came to talk to a Colombian MP who was with me. The chief was going to take two Ukrainian MPs and do a prisoner exchange, Serbs for Muslims. And looking on were some Italian MPs. This gives you an idea of the chaos that just the U.N. presence creates.

**Archer:** The best UNPROFOR guys are the Egyptians. Since the Egyptians are in Sarajevo, you have

electricity at the Holiday Inn because they sell the petrol from their tanks and trucks to the hotel. The Ukrainians and Egyptians will sell you anything, then they go on a 200-kilometer convoy and after 20 kilometers they stop — no more petrol. And their officers go nuts because their vehicles are out of petrol.

**RKB:** *Can you get pictures of them selling the petrol?*

**Archer:** Most of the press doesn't want to stop them, because we depend on them for food and petrol, too.

**RKB:** *The press won't take pictures, because then the generators will run out at the Holiday Inn — incredible. What else do they sell besides gasoline?*

**Archer:** Food, cigarettes. Once we were behind an armored car that got stuck on the road. When they opened their door, it was filled to its top with beer, cigarettes and a goat.

**RKB:** *A live goat?*

**Archer:** A live goat. It was like a shop on wheels. The door shouldn't have been in the back. It should have been on the side so the guy can sell right out of the APC, like one of those snack trucks. It's incredible, you can buy anything from a Ukrainian. His bulletproof jacket, his shoes, whatever you want.

**RKB:** *What do they want, Deutsche marks?*

**Archer:** Dollars, D-marks, hard currency.

### Death For Women & Children

*(At this point the conversation shifted to civilian casualties.)*

**DeRuyter:** In most wars the population may be caught in between, but here civilians are primary targets. You can see by the pattern of shelling. It's never aimed at a military position, it's aimed at terrorizing the civilian population. The snipers are killing grandmothers and children.

**Archer:** Last weekend in Mostar, there was a group of three guys in camo fatigues with guns that passed one of the main sniper crossings. They ran — no fire. Then three giggling young girls crossed and were fired at. The sniper missed one by an inch. Typical, really typical. And on a day we were in Mostar, they had four kids killed by snipers and four women, too. Those were the only casualties.

No military casualties that whole

day. Four kids — bullets in the head. You can't shoot someone in the head and not tell it's a kid.

**DeRuyter:** This whole thing is about ethnic cleansing, about population displacements, about forcing people out of their homes.

**RKB:** *What's the solution?*

**DeRuyter:** I don't know. Let them deal with their own problems. Get the hell out of here. If you intervene here, you're going to have to intervene in Macedonia or at the border of Poland and Russia, with again a three-party conflict with the Poles, the Germans and Russians. This is the fate of Europe, the curse of Europe. We are back somewhere be-



Gutted interior of Sarajevo national library, courtesy of a Serb tank's main gun. Serbs purposely target museums, libraries, hospitals and mosques in the course of their Nazi-like ethnic cleansing. Photo: R. K. Brown

tween 1929 and 1946.

When you stop to talk with troops, or the legionnaires at the airport, you learn that they have to accept things they would never accept in any other situation. You're talking with a colonel and eight mortar rounds drop around you and he says, "We're not really under attack."

**Archer:** Normally, you could never imagine the French Foreign Legion getting two guys shot through the head and not replying in the next 10 minutes. The legion was pissed — now they're just disillusioned. They had guys die and for what? They told me it would only take them a few hours to secure the airport. They knew exactly who to "talk to," as they say. They could do it, but they don't have the orders. ☒



# TRADE CENTER BOMBING:

# THE NICARAGUAN CONNECTION



Don't look in the basement — Nicaraguan police check debris from 23 May 1993 explosion at auto repair shop in Managua suburb; blast exposed complex underground arms cache, including 19 shoulder-fired SAMs (appear to be Soviet-made SA-7 Grails), RPGs, numerous AK-type rifles, tons of ammo and plastic explosives. Also uncovered: files of kidnapping ring that dealt in passports and IDs for globe-trotting terrorists of all persuasions. Photo: Reuters/Bettmann

## Terrorist Nexus Uncovered In Suburban Managua

by **Joseph C. Goulden  
& Reed Irvine**

Photos by **AP/Wide World**



**Were elements** of the Sandinista gang that used terror to seize control of Nicaragua involved in this year's cowardly 26 February bombing of the World Trade Center and the subsequent plot to blow up Hudson River tunnels and other facilities around New York City?

New evidence from Managua, Nicaragua — largely ignored by the media — indicates a possible Sandinista link to the bomb plots. The evidence also proves that although the Nicaraguan people voted to throw the communists out of office three years ago, the Sandinistas' power and terrorist activities continue unabated. But for the 70% of Americans who say television is their primary (and often only) source of news, this story remains unreported.

Throughout the 1980s, the media — especially the Big Three TV networks — frequently derided documented evidence compiled by the Reagan administration proving how the Sandinistas were supporting violent revolution elsewhere in Central America, especially the campaign of

Believed trained by Afghan muj, Ahmad Mohammed Ajaj served prison time for entering U.S. with fake passports and how-to bombing manuals. Arrested as Trade Center bombing conspirator, he is linked to Palestinian terrorist group Fatah, among others. Ajaj told journalists, "I came to America because here I'll be able to live and serve the cause of Islam in Palestine and other parts of the world."



the communist-led Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) to overthrow popularly elected presidents of El Salvador.

But an early morning explosion in Managua this past 23 May finally blew apart the leftist/media myth of Sandinistas being well-meaning populist revolutionaries. Still, a cover-up by CBS, the other broadcast networks and such print giants as *The New York Times* continues, involving one of the more dramatic political stories to come out of Central America in recent years.

This episode began when a violent blast rocked an auto repair shop in Santa Rosa, a suburb of the capital city. Police who rushed to the scene found two persons dead and extensive property damage. But the real discovery lay beneath the rubble, where police came upon a vast underground bunker laden with tons of arms, ranging from hundreds of AK-47 rifles to 19 sophisticated Surface-to-Air Missiles (SAMs) and boxes of plastic explosives. The arsenal was protected with hydraulic doors; tunnels connected the bunker's numerous chambers.

One of the chambers, according to Nicaraguan authorities, housed the headquarters of an international terrorist-kidnapping ring that created false passports and other identification papers while compiling dossiers on movements of potential victims, chiefly wealthy Latin Americans. That *The New York Times* ignored this story is especially peculiar.

After an Egyptian immigrant named Ibrahim Elgabrownly was arrested in Brooklyn in early March on charges of complicity in the plot to bomb the World Trade Center, authorities found five fraudulently obtained Nicaraguan passports and visas in his apartment (an address also used by other young Muslim men arrested in the bombing case).

Elgabrownly's passports were issued for the family of Elgabrownly's cousin, convicted terrorist El Sayyid Nosair, now serving up to 22 years in New York's Attica State Prison for assault and weapons possession related to the 1990 slaying of Rabbi Meir Kahane, a Jewish activist. One passport was issued in the convict's name and dated some eight months after he was sent to Attica.



Mild-mannered Nidal Ayyad, naturalized American citizen arrested in Trade Center bombing sweep, is a Rutgers graduate and research chemist; he's also suspected in 1991 fraud case bilking businessmen out of \$105,000. Ayyad shared bank accounts with two other alleged bombers and traveled frequently to Kuwait and Jordan.

Despite the extensive coverage it has given this plot and the later scheme to bomb the Hudson River tunnels, the U.N. building and other New York City facilities, the *Times* has not pursued a possible link between the Elgabrownly documents and the Managua bunker.

### Sandinistas Control Managua

Existence of Nicaragua's "terrorist central" bunker has important international political implications. Although defeated at the polls in February 1990, the communist Sandinistas continue to exert *de facto* control over Nicaragua's security and intelligence agencies. This episode points up the political blunder President Violeta Chamorro made by not purging communists from positions of authority after winning her overwhelming 54.7% of the vote against 40.8% for the communists.

Some seized documents from the bunker date back to 1986, demonstrating that it was actively in use when the Sandinistas still ruled Nica-



Suspected terrorist Nidal Ayyad, 25, being led from Newark, N.J., federal courthouse. Ayyad was denied bail on charges of aiding and abetting World Trade Center bombers.

ragua. One account of the explosion reported how Tomas Borge, the former Sandinista minister of the interior who controlled the secret police, rushed to the blast site in his pajamas. Borge's panic — he holds no office now — suggests something more significant than the natural reaction from a man who hears a loud bang in the night.

Many of the bunker's cached arms belonged to El Salvador's communist FMLN guerrillas. A 1992 truce obliged the FMLN to surrender its arms. In its public statements, generally unchallenged by the media, the FMLN claimed for months to have done just that. Press attention has focused instead on the FMLN's demands that President Alfredo Cristiani keep his end of the bargain and cashier top-ranking officers of the Salvadoran military. By all accounts, Cristiani has done just that, firing a host of top generals and colonels.

Now we know the FMLN lied in stating that it laid down its arms — the Santa Rosa bunker explosion jarred loose the truth. In an 11 June letter to the United Nations, Salvador Sanchez Ceren admitted that his Popular Liberation Forces (PLF — one of five guerrilla factions making up the FMLN) owned most of the weapons.

Sanchez Ceren apologized to U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali for lying when he earlier swore that the PLF weapons had been destroyed. He went on to insist that no arms had been removed from the Managua vault since the ceasefire,

but physical evidence suggests otherwise. Nicaraguan authorities said the blast occurred when guns and explosives were being transferred from the bunker into a car.

The bunker cache also proves that international terrorism survived the Soviet Union's collapse, using Managua as a safe haven. The owner of the repair shop above the bunker was said to be associated with a Spanish Basque separatist group — he disappeared after the blast.

Although Nicaraguan authorities have released no information on origins of the weapons, reporter Douglas Farah wrote in *The Washington Post* on 14 July, "Former Sandinista President Daniel Ortega has visited Iraq at least once and Libya twice this year, once immediately after the arms cache was discovered."

### Press Neglects Explosion

Wire services carried brief accounts of the explosion in the days immediately following 23 May. Most accounts centered on FMLN denials that its guerrillas needed any arms after the Salvadoran ceasefire, or on the deportations from Nicaragua of three accused Basque terrorists to Spain.

The U.S. press ignored the import of the bunker story until 20 June, when Tim Johnson wrote a lengthy front-page story in *The Miami Herald*. Johnson concentrated on the kidnap angle and connection between Basque and Latin American terrorists. He gave examples of the specificity of details compiled in dossiers on potential targets; for instance, the kidnapping ring knew that a garbage truck went by the mansion of one Mexico City millionaire "every day at 10 a.m. and a guard opens the gate."

Not until the end of Johnson's story did he address the key question of whether Sandinistas were involved in the bunker's operation. Even so, he gave the issue short shrift, suggesting that the blame, if any, could be on fringe groups. "Radical elements within the Sandinista front appear to have played a role in the ring, if only as hosts," he wrote.

Farah of *The Washington Post* wrote a much tougher front-page story on 14 July under the headline "Managua Blasts Rip Lid Off Se-

crets." Running more than 2,500 words, Farah's account featured extraordinary and sensational detail. But even given Farah's guidance, none of the major TV networks or national papers such as *The New York Times* or *Los Angeles Times* have mentioned the bunker's discovery. There was editorial commentary on the explosion in such newspapers as *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Times*, *The Sacramento Bee* and *The Arizona Republic*.

*The Wall Street Journal's* 23 July editorial page suggested that "Ollie North was right" having a security fence built around his Virginia home in the 1980s to keep out terrorists. (This incident, of course, prompted one of the charges brought against North by special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh in the Iran-Contra affair.)

### U.S. Reporters Derelict

Obtaining the story would have required little journalistic enterprise on the part of U.S. reporters, for much of what *The Miami Herald* and Farah reported had been in the public domain for weeks, readily available to anyone who looked for it. One such disclosure was in the letter of FMLN leader Sanchez Ceren to the United Nations, written soon after the explosion.

According to Farah's account, Judge Martha Quezada, presiding over the investigation, made 43 folders of evidence available to journalists in Managua a week before he filed his story. "She let reporters review the documents," Farah wrote. These included 310 passports, many blank, from 21 countries, plus "scores" of other false ID papers, transit visas and blank weapons permit forms from the Sandinista government.

In a front-page story on 15 July, the *Times* mentioned that "five fraudulent Nicaraguan passports" had been found in the possession of Elgabrownny, described as a 42-year-old Egyptian immigrant. Here arises the connection between the Managua bunker and the New York City bomb plots, the latter the subject of intensive coverage by the *Times*. But the newspaper withheld from its readers information on how the Managua ring used falsified Nicaraguan documents to permit terrorists to travel covertly around the world.

Did the Elgabrownny passports



come from the Santa Rosa bunker? We don't know. We do know that a State Department spokesman commenting on the Farah articles on 14 July said the FBI had dispatched investigators to Managua to determine if such terrorist materials had been used in the United States. Again, this briefing gave the *Times* and other media, including the Big Three TV networks, a chance to report on the original explosion story.

### Helms: "I Told You So."

Both the Farah and *Herald* stories were discussed by Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina during hearings on 14 July before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. As Helms noted, he has repeatedly spoken out on the subject of Sandinistas supplying arms to the FMLN, only to be ignored by Senate colleagues and by the press.

"Now, this is not new information," Helms noted, "and we have a fellow down at home who said, 'I never want to say "I told you so," but I told you so.'"

On 15 July Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., put both news articles in the *Congressional Record*, declaring the Sandinistas still pose "an incredible danger to the lives of millions of innocent people." McCain continued: "Those of us who supported freedom and democracy and aid to the Contras are again vindicated by this clear record of what the Sandinistas are doing with the help of Cuba and others."

On McCain's motion, the Senate voted without recorded dissent to suspend U.S. aid to Nicaragua, pending an investigation into the Sandinista relationship "to acts of terrorism which threaten to undermine the security of the United States and economic prosperity of the Western Hemisphere." The Clinton administration had earlier this year approved release of \$50 million in aid for Nicaragua's government — this money is now on hold. But not even the Senate vote jarred the broadcast networks into mentioning the bunker story.

The Managua newspaper *La Prensa* ran long accounts of the bunker discovery, including the disclosure that serial numbers had been removed from 16 of the 19 SAMs discovered after the blast, apparently to conceal their origin.

The remark by Sen. Helms about

the bunker disclosures being old information was true. A widely disregarded report from one year ago prepared by the Foreign Relations Committee's minority Republican staff foretold what came to light with the May 23 explosion. The 144-page report, "Nicaragua Today," was issued in August 1992. Its primary author was Deborah L. DeMoss, who works for Helms. The Republican staff director, James W. Nance, concluded that Nicaragua "is not merely a country controlled by Sandinista communists. A more accurate description is that Nicaragua is a country overwhelmingly controlled by terrorists, thugs, thieves and murderers at the highest levels."

### The Ortega Goon Squad

The report detailed how President Chamorro permitted the Sandinistas to transfer the State Security Intelligence Agency from their Ministry of the Interior into the Sandinista Popular Army under the euphemistic cover title of "Defense Information Directorate." The aptly named Lenin Cerna, a protege of Daniel Ortega, continues to run the agency. (His brother Engels Cerna is also a Sandinista functionary.) Similarly, the Ministry of the Interior, once run by Tomas Borge, became the Ministry of the Government with Chamorro replacing only 20 of 11,700 persons who had held office under the Sandinistas.

DeMoss and her associates reported how the Sandinista military and intelligence agencies ran an active — and open — arms market from Managua. "The Sandinistas have hundreds of thousands of assault weapons, sidearms and millions of rounds of ammunition, as well as hundreds of cannons and rocket launchers," the report stated. "These are among the weapons that the Sandinista Popular Army has shipped regularly to terrorist groups around the region." These include several terrorist organizations in Guatemala, along with the Cinchoneros in Honduras, the M-20 organization in Panama and the "Free Fatherland" faction in Peru.

But the most flagrant violations, the report noted, concerned an unabated flow of arms to El Salvador's FMLN, in flagrant violation of the ceasefire provided by the January 1992 peace treaty. The Sandinistas

had been bequeathed these arms by their former Soviet and Cuban supporters. Even though this aid has ceased, the Nicaraguan army, including reserves, still numbers more than 202,800 persons — four times the size of Guatemala's military and five times that of Honduras, Nicaragua's immediate neighbors.

Military and police spending soaks around one-quarter of the nation's annual budget. The DeMoss report also detailed systematic thievery; tens of thousands of confiscated properties remain in the hands of Sandinista leaders and their cronies. Many such holdings belonged to Americans formerly living and working in Nicaragua.

One particularly egregious offender is General Humberto Ortega (Daniel Ortega's brother) who continues on as the army commander in chief. The general "seized an entire neighborhood that includes some 20



A murky figure using 11 aliases during six-month New York stay, Ramzi Ahmed Yousef flew in from Pakistan, requested political asylum, then drove cab in Brooklyn. Believed a "key" to Islamic world terrorism, Yousef fled U.S. after Trade Center blast.

homes in a wealthy subdivision," the report stated. "This subdivision, which is located on a main highway outside of Managua, has been walled-in and is protected at all hours by military security. We measured the length of one side of the property as a little less than one half-mile."

In most instances, Chamorro has taken no steps to restore the seized properties to their lawful owners. Several cases in which she acted have ended in violence. When a man received an order for the return of his gas station, "Sandinista mobs attacked

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# ATF GRUDGE RAID



VS.



by James L. Pate

**“Federal agents!”** shouted voices outside Shooters Equipment Co. (S.E.C.) in Westminster, South Carolina, threatening to knock down the door of the mail-order business.

“I thought it was a joke — a friend of mine,” said Gordon “Tommy” Davis, S.E.C.’s owner. He opened the door. It was no joke.

Six Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (ATF) agents stood with a battering-ram at the ready. Wearing black SWAT gear, they brandished an array of weapons that included MP5 submachine guns, shotguns and 9mm pistols.

With armed cover provided by seven other feds, including a U.S. postal inspector, the six-man ATF entry team ordered Davis outside, along with S.E.C.’s two employees, a married couple named Jerry and Tammy Smith. The entry team fanned out to secure the buildings.

“All of them except one had on a ski mask,” Davis said. “The little chickenshits even had their badge num-

bers covered. They ordered everyone to lay on the ground. Nobody did. I immediately asked for a copy of the search warrant. They said no. I asked to talk to the team leader. I got no answer.”

The team leader, ATF Agent Mark Mutz, took the Smith couple aside and threatened them with lengthy prison terms if they did not “cooperate.” Mrs. Smith was also individually threatened by Mutz, who told her the government would send her children to a foster home if she were jailed because she refused to testify against Davis.

Davis’ residence was simultaneously raided.

“My wife was in the utility room, sorting laundry,” Davis told *Soldier Of Fortune*. “They went in there with ski masks and guns drawn and scared the shit out of her. ... They even went through her underwear drawer and jewelry box. ... From the next room, she heard ‘em say, ‘Jesus, look at all the jewelry this bitch has!’ ”

It would be seven more months before ATF’s poorly



planned and disastrously executed raid against David Koresh and his Branch Davidian cult would shock the nation. But the vortex of lies, ineptitude and constitutional treachery already secretly swirling around the Waco investigation was sucking in Tommy Davis, his firearms parts business and his family.

The ATF's case against Davis — most of which fell apart before it even got to court — is only a footnote to several investigations spun off by the Waco disaster. But it remains important: Because if it goes to court, it will mark a first legal test of when, in the production process, an assortment of legal parts constitute a restricted firearm under the National Firearms Act. The Davis case specifically involves firearms silencer parts.

The silencer case is one in which the ATF is trying to "make law," i.e., make a first-time regulatory interpretation of a long existing law that will then become a precedent for future enforcement actions. In a practice long common with ATF — one which

10 years ago caused it to be chastised by the Senate for "secret law-making" — the ATF had never published in the *Federal Register*, as required by law, its new interpretation of the law regarding silencer parts.

That the framers of the Constitution explicitly intended for only Congress to make law long ago ceased to be of concern to ATF policy makers. "A criminal prosecution is an inappropriate vehicle for interpretation of complex laws which have previously never been addressed," said Davis' attorney, Scott McLarty of Athens, Georgia.

Compared to Waco, though, the raid against Davis was unremarkable — with the possible exception of an ATF "expert" who flew in by chartered aircraft and arrived at the scene in a chauffeur-driven stretch limousine. Agents expected [hoped for?] violence, according to Mutz's raid plan, a copy of which was obtained by *SOF*.

Mutz demonstrated the kind of investigative professionalism that has come to typify ATF operations: He left behind the ATF's telephone credit card. Oh, yeah, one other thing. He forgot to retrieve the Davis case file from the flotsam left in the wake of the havoc his team made of Davis' shop.

"Did I read it?" Davis said incredulously, repeating my question about the case file. "We've still got it! My attorney is using it as evidence against these dumbasses."

Davis' business is mentioned — but not named — on

page 13 of the ATF's original search-warrant affidavit for Ranch Apocalypse, filed in Waco by Agent Davy Aguilera.

Without published rulings on what does and does not constitute an illegal act, ATF's constantly evolving regulatory interpretations of U.S. gun laws — especially wielded in the clumsy hands of such clueless agents as Aguilera and Mutz — has resulted in a situation in which compliance is, at best, a moving target.

In its case against Davis, for instance, the ATF alleges he was selling unlicensed firearms silencers. Davis argues that all he sells are off-the-shelf, prepackaged parts with instructions on complying with the law and what steps must then be taken in a machine shop to build a silencer. ATF now contends that the law is broken once otherwise legal parts are put in a container with instructions on how to use them to build a silencer.

### The Waco Warrant

Aguilera alleged in the Waco warrant that Koresh had been mail ordering "parts [which] could be used to assemble both semiautomatic firearms and machine guns ..." and that "one of the vendors of supplies to Howell [Koresh] has been the subject of several ATF investigations in the past. ATF executed a search warrant at this company and seized a number of illegal machine guns and silencers." [Aguilera went on to say upper and lower receivers for the alleged conversion of AK-47s had been seen at Ranch Apocalypse — an impossibility because that weapon has a unitary, or one-part, receiver.]

Davis told *SOF* the only items he had sold to Koresh were legal gun replacement parts. Aguilera's sworn claim about the seizure of so-called machine guns from Davis' business was an outright lie.

"Special Agent Mark Mutz ... was the case agent on the above ongoing investigation dealing with the illicit supplier who has provided gun parts to" Koresh, Aguilera's affidavit said.

Despite the implication in the Waco warrant that Davis, as owner of the "illicit" business, was a criminal, Davis had not been charged with anything at that point. He had, in fact, never been convicted of *any* serious crime. [He acknowledges pleading guilty more than 20 years ago to a state misdemeanor charge of carrying a gun in his vehicle's glove compartment.] The reference by Aguilera's affidavit to



The case against S.E.C. is one in which the ATF is trying to make law by forcing a first-time regulatory interpretation of an existing law, which will then become precedent for future enforcement actions.



S.E.C. as an "illicit" business left ATF open to a libel suit by Davis ... unless ATF got an indictment.

But if it may be incompetent in many other areas, ATF is a master of Cover Your Ass. On 23 March, seven months after its raid on S.E.C. and in the midst of the Waco standoff, ATF won a 14-count indictment against Davis, his wife and the Smith couple.

### Shotgun News Ad

Tommy Davis does not candy-coat his feelings about the ATF. "BATF Is Scum," proclaims his baseball cap, which he wears to gun shows, where he hands out buttons with a similar slogan.

In the bureaucratic mind of ATF, criticism — especially the unvarnished truth about their routine abuse of civil rights and preference for Neanderthal tactics — is not to be tolerated.

It was in *Shotgun News* — a general distribution publication of more than 150,000 circulation — that S.E.C. had advertised its "Pneumatic Plosion Silencer" kit for \$68 (See ad on facing page.).

Each kit consists of four prepackaged, off-the-shelf components: a 4-inch pneumatic plosion air tool silencer; a pipe plug of either 1/2- or 1-inch diameter; a soft plastic cover, and an instruction sheet for required machine work that begins with a stern warning to the buyer on how to comply with state and federal laws.

"On Nov. 1, 1991, I was made aware of an advertisement in ... *Shotgun News* ... concerning the sale of silencer kits by ... Shooters Equipment Company," ATF Agent Mutz said in an affidavit he signed 20 August 1992, part of his search-warrant application for Davis' business.

### Machine-Shop "Assembly"

Mutz's affidavit further states that, with the help of a North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation office in Asheville, he ordered and received two of the silencer kits from S.E.C. "On February 4, 1992, the silencer kits were assembled at ATF Firearms Technology branch and found to be firearms silencers, in violation of federal firearms laws."

What Mutz failed to tell U.S. Magistrate William M. Catoe Jr. in the search-warrant affidavit was that the silencer parts weren't just "assembled." One of ATF's Firearms Technology branch experts, Doug Craze [I swear, we don't make up these names] spent 30 minutes in a well-equipped tool shop, using a drill press and

a tap and die set, to turn one parts kit obtained from S.E.C. into a firearm silencer.

The silencer kits obtained by ATF "were both activated according to instructions," Craze wrote in his technical report to Mutz. But neither Craze in his report nor Mutz in his affidavit to Catoe mentioned that these instructions begin with a detailed warning to the buyer about which steps must be taken *before* shop work to comply with state and federal firearms laws.

*P/P Silencers: Instructions and Warnings*, the instruction sheet accompanying the kit begins. *You have just received your brand-new pneumatic plosion silencer in an unassembled state. You, the consumer, will be the maker of the final NFA [National Firearms Act] silencer. Current federal laws allow any individual to construct and own a firearms silencer under specific guidelines. A few states do not allow the private ownership of a completed NFA silencer. So call your state attorney general to find out the law in your state. Next, contact the nearest Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms office and ask them to send you an ATF Form Number One. Complete this form and submit it along with the*

*proper tax to [ATF.] Once your approval comes back, you may proceed with construction of your finished P/P Silencer. WARNING: Follow all federal and state guidelines. The civil and criminal penalties are very serious ..."*

### Long-standing Enmity

Tommy Davis dates his troubles with ATF to an incident almost 15 years ago in which he received an obviously illegal firearm in the mail. He called the closest ATF office and said he wanted to turn in the weapon. He acknowledges he was rude to the agent who responded, but makes no apologies.

"I don't like these guys," he said, "and I don't want to have anything to do with them."

So when ATF Agent Craig Valentek knocked on the door to inquire about the ille-

gal weapon Davis received in the mail, Davis said he opened the door, handed over the weapon, told Valentek to "get the hell out of here" and slammed the door.

Valentek knocked again, and when Davis opened the door, Valentek told Davis he had to sign an abandonment



ATF has been watching S.E.C. owner Gordon "Tommy" Davis for years, ever since he didn't show proper respect for one of their field agents. The baseball cap he routinely wears, with the slogan "BATF Is Scum," doesn't endear him to the agency either.



form. Davis said he told the ATF agent he had turned in the gun and was not going to sign any form, that he'd done all he had to do to comply with the law. If any paperwork needed to be filled out, Valentek should do it himself, Davis said he told the young agent.

"They've had a hard-on for me ever since," according to Davis, a longtime professional in the firearms parts business, both as businessman and inventor. He and Bob Deter made the original drop-in auto-sear for AR-15 rifles.

His next encounter of the ATF kind came at the *SOF* convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1982. Two undercover ATF agents — one of whom stole a gun from his booth, Davis said — tried to entice Davis into making illegal machine-gun conversions. He refused, but another person who bought parts from Davis at the convention was subsequently indicted. Davis was charged with seven counts of conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and other counts related to that conversion. But Davis had only sold *legal* parts, and after a two-day trial, he was acquitted on all counts.

Of his many run-ins with ATF before and since, Davis said he noticed one difference when he became a peripheral part of the Waco investigation. For the first time, ATF agents never came to talk first before they pounced.

"They used to do that," Davis said. "They would always write or call and advise you that there were allegations of illegal activity. That happened several times over 10 or 12 years. This time, they just came in like a bunch of stormtrooper thugs."

In a pretrial hearing before U.S. Magistrate Catoe, sought by Defense Attorney McLarty to get charges against Davis dismissed, ATF Agent Craze acknowledged that, "This was the first time [ATF] had conducted a test on a [silencer] kit containing an industrial muffler," according to court record.

Craze admitted under cross-examination that, "It was customary of ATF to enter into a dialogue with the sellers of firearms devices when it was a novel question. ... In this case, the [ATF] elected not to follow its custom of attempting to work out the problem."

### The Raid

ATF's raid against S.E.C. is one of many on a growing list of examples in which ATF agents have been deliberately duplicitous, not only with suspects, but also with the federal magistrates who sign the warrants behind which ATF hides its dirty work.

In his sworn affidavit filed in application for a search warrant from U.S. Magistrate Catoe, Agent Mutz implies that Davis and his company became a target of investiga-

tion "on November 1, 1991, [when] I was made aware of an advertisement in ... *Shotgun News*."

But after Catoe granted the search warrant, Mutz prepared a raid plan for other agents — which Catoe would not routinely see — that acknowledges ATF had wanted to get Davis for a long, long time:

"This warrant is the product of several years of investigation by several ATF agents, and several cases that have gone unprosecuted," said Mutz's raid plan, part of the investigation file Mutz left at S.E.C., in an avalanche of Davis' personal papers and business files dumped on the floor.

Mutz's raid plan also noted some, "Concerns: These subjects are known to be very anti-ATF and, as previously stated, have been the target of several investigations. Firearms are the major concern; we know they have them and would be the type to carry them at this location."

Mutz goes on to advise his agents that no arrest warrants were obtained, but "If ... and [sic] arrest situation presents itself, do not place yourself and others in jeopardy by trying to sidestep that situation. Make the arrest and remove the threat."

This is a fine example of the ATF tactic not to avoid confrontation in predictably fluid tactical situations, but to seek or actually *cause* it.

Mutz concluded the raid plan with the location of "the closest trauma center."

### Not America's Funniest Home Video

"They definitely expected a confrontation," Davis told *SOF*. "Given it was me, they probably hoped for one so they could cap me. ... They've had a personal vendetta against me for a long time."

Led by Mutz, the agents arrived about 1030 hours and remained until 1700, Davis said.

"After about 15 minutes or so, they moved us inside and sat my wife and I down at the dining room table," Davis said. "By this time, they had taken off their body armor and helmets, stripped down to their black pants and T-shirts. I kept asking to see the warrant. They told me to quit pestering them."

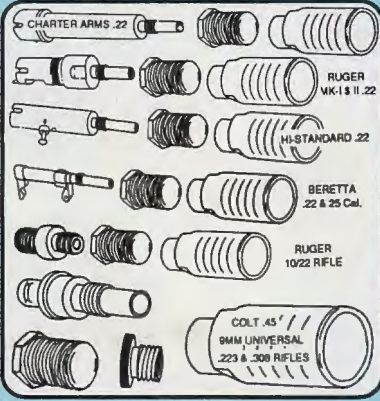
Davis said that before beginning their search, agents videotaped and photographed his house, his business and the contents of both. They dumped files on his office floor. Mutz threatened to burn a hole in his safe if he didn't open it. Davis complied. Inside, Mutz found a small silver coin collection, car titles, some cash and a sealed envelope marked "Bank of Mexico." Breaking it open, agents found a few uncirculated 1945 silver pesos.

Continued on page 68

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Though this advertisement placed in *Shotgun News* was for legal parts kits, ATF "reinterpreted" the law to allow for SWAT-type raid on S.E.C.



# FOREIGN LEGION AT THE FRONT LINES

by Robert K. Brown

Photos by Robert MacKenzie



Ribbon wire helps keep warring factions from spilling onto Sarajevo's airport, allowing crucial humanitarian aid to be flown into the besieged city.

**On SOF's recent** journalistic foray into Bosnia, I made it a point to talk with a French Foreign Legion officer from the 2nd REP (*Regiment Etranger Parachutiste*) which, operating under U.N. command, is tasked with securing the Sarajevo airport. The officer, who wished to remain anonymous, noted that the legionnaires have been dealt some difficult rules of engagement.

The legion's mission essentially comprises three parts:

1. *To provide security for the Sarajevo airport, and to protect planes landing and taking off.*
2. *To escort convoys carrying food and medical supplies*

*from the airport to Sarajevo.*

3. *To provide escorts for diplomats and security for POW exchanges.*

"We are not here as warriors, but to provide support. It is difficult to maintain a balance between the two concepts and the responsibilities each entails. We must stay neutral to be able to distribute the humanitarian aid," the officer said.

Although the legion is not enamored with the rules of engagement they must operate under, the officer told me, "Our unit is good for this particular operation, because with the legion the mission is 'sacred.' We stay neutral by strictly observing the limits of the mission."

I asked him under what conditions the legionnaires were allowed to use their weapons to return fire. He responded, "At this moment, the 2nd REP is under U.N. command and therefore, as I mentioned earlier, strictly follows the U.N. rules of engagement. The fundamental rule is that we do not fire unless we have a case of 'legitimate defense.' By that I mean, we can only return fire when our lives are in danger, or if our installation is directly threatened.

"The biggest problem is that our battalion and the other legion battalions spend most of the time in a war environment. Here, the fire is not usually directed at us and we serve only in a security role.

"For example, there are warring factions all around the airport and they are always firing at one another, and we are caught in the cross fire. It is essential that our troops stay calm. And because of the legion's discipline, we can do the job. Certainly, the legion is not made to do the job we're doing here, but because of our training, our discipline, we can do it.



French legionnaires detailed to United Nations check credentials at perimeter of Sarajevo airport. Legionnaire at left carries French FR-F2 sniping rifle in 7.62x51 NATO.



It's not easy, but we do it."

I then asked the officer to describe the recent shooting of two legion troopers.

He recounted, "On 6 June 1992, the Serbs gave control of the airport, which they had seized in the spring, to the U.N. The Serb conditions [for surrendering the airport] were that the airport was to be used only for humanitarian purposes. So now we have a situation where we have Serb and Bosnian units all around the airport. At night, the Bosnians try to cross the airport to resupply their units in Sarajevo and the Serbs shoot at them. Our mission is security of the airport and, therefore, in the course of so doing we are exposed to fire.

"During the nights of 1 and 2 June, Bosnians were attempting to cross the airstrip. Legionnaires in an APC moved out to intercept them. They exited from the APC, and the Serbs fired into the mixed group of legionnaires and Bosnians. Two legionnaires were hit — one took three bullets in the leg, and one was shot in the head. The NCO in charge reported the situation to his superiors and was given the order to return fire. Small-arms fire from legionnaire fixed positions quickly silenced the Serbs who were firing from only a few hundred meters away."

He went on to say, "From a military point of view, the situation is very complicated; from a political point of view, even though it's not our problem, it's ridiculous.

"The hardest part of our mission is to be in the heart of a war without being able to fight back. The 2nd REP is used to working in Africa, where we function as light infantry. Here, we're working in town in a security role.

"We have the capability to adapt to any situation, which is one of the strengths of the legion, which in turn indicates the high quality of our troops."

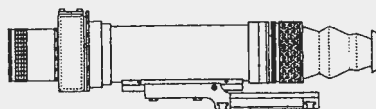
Though the officer did not mention it, and I thought it inappropriate to ask, one need not be a rocket scientist to figure out that the legionnaires were counting the days to bailing out of one of the most stupid, confusing conflicts in the 20th century.

Robert K. Brown is Editor and Publisher of Soldier Of Fortune.✕

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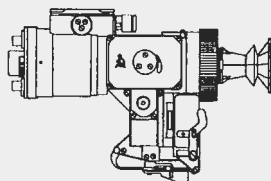


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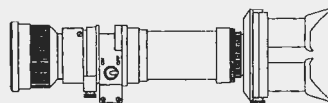


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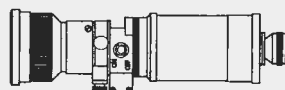
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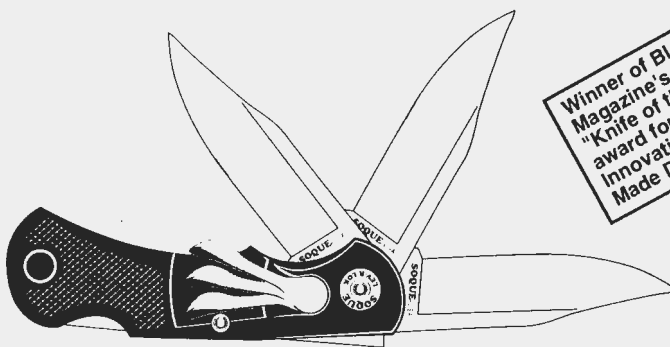
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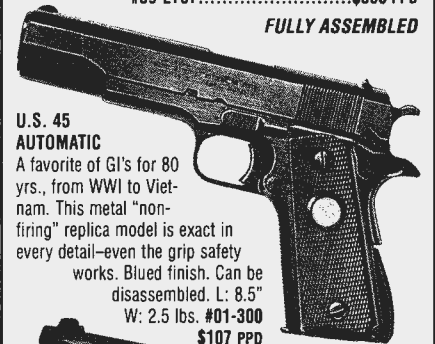


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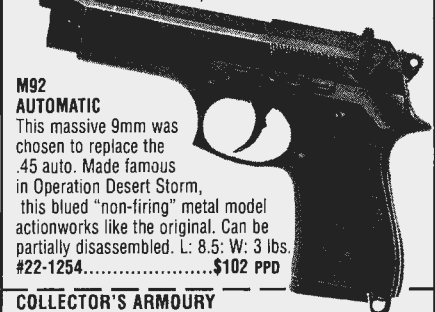
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# TRADE CENTER BOMBING

Continued from page 59

the local state attorney who was seeking to enforce the order." Another mob occupied a ranch and refused to let the owner resume possession.

These concerns were raised repeatedly with the U.S. State Department while Helms and other senators urged President Clinton not to give aid to Nicaragua until the property rights of Americans were respected. Clinton overrode these protests earlier this year when he approved releasing the \$50 million in aid. As McCain told the Senate on 14 July, the American people will be "hard pressed" to understand how a state that tolerates terrorism should benefit from our tax money.

A State Department document quoted in the DeMoss report notes that while assigned to the Nicaraguan Embassy in Honduras, Lenin Cerna, head of Sandinista security, "directed assassinations of Sandinista regime opponents in exile." The document cited Cerna as "widely believed to have personally tortured civil-opposition activists, including Sofonias Cisneros, president of the Union of Christian School Parents."

The bunker's dossiers on prospective kidnap victims show the skill with which terrorists stalked their prey. One document reported on Mexican hotel magnate Antonio Gutierrez Prieto attending a Mass to commemorate the second anniversary of his wife's death. Shortly afterward his son was abducted and held for eight months before his release for ransom.

The motive for such schemes was monetary, not revolutionary. Dossiers on Ecuadoran subjects mentioned targeting persons "with the biggest personal fortunes. Amount to negotiate: \$10 million (could be higher, depending on the negotiation)."

Increasingly, the Sandinista movement — which liberals a decade ago proclaimed to be a progressive new voice in Latin politics — is now revealing itself to be a criminal organization. This should come as no surprise to those who

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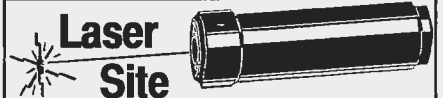
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have watched the Sandinistas from their inception.

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*Note: The "Nicaragua Today" reprint is available by writing to Minority Staff, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, SD-452, Washington, DC 20510; or by phoning 202-224-3941. ✕*

## SPECOPS

Continued from page 35

best all-around SpecOps force, but will readily admit that certain dark-side forces have the best trained people, the best facilities, the best equipment, and most important, the best budget.

### Future Ops: Business Looks Good

There is no shortage of terrorists or drug traffickers, and the collapse of communism has unleashed powerful nationalistic, ethnic and religious forces. The need for large, conventional forces has declined, but the requirement for SpecOps forces has increased. In 1991, some 2,000 teams were deployed to 75 countries. Our involvement will continue to grow as we begin working inside the former Soviet Union and other previously denied areas. Because special operations forces are more politically palatable than other forces, we will play an increasingly vital role in projecting U.S. interests abroad. SpecOps provides an influence and flexibility beyond its size and cost, and for the next decades will remain Congress' "biggest bang for the buck."

*R. B. Anderson enlisted in the Army in 1967. He served in a Ranger unit in Vietnam and at SOC Central during Desert Shield/Storm. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in July, from his final assignment at SOC Pacific. He has been a frequent contributor to Soldier Of Fortune. ✕*

NOVEMBER 93

## I WAS THERE

Continued from page 21

reappearing. Our wait was over. Landings would soon begin — the fleet shifted into the wind, preparing to recover planes. Since there were no casualties among our ship's returnees, we were to be first aboard.

We started down on the first leg of our landing pattern approach. Apprehension was higher now, for this was an extremely critical juncture with our unusual problem. Each of us continued to hope our wing would hold up. The landing would be delicate, with lower air speed related to less airlift wing pressure: Airlift pressure might be what had kept the wing from collapsing. Our hope was to make the landing on the first pass, without a wave-off, and that the wing would remain extended until our hook grabbed a cable.

We sweated the plane all the way into the groove. Ed made a great landing; we got a cut (OK to land) on our first pass. The plane bounced once with the hook grabbing the second cable. At the instant we hit the deck and jolted against the grasp of the cable, the port wing collapsed! The plane jounced and skidded forward and sideways toward the edge of the flight deck, 40 feet above the water. It stopped. The hook and cable held us from going over.

We were down!

Drained by prolonged anxiety and anger, but now on a solid deck, we were extremely relieved and full of thanks to God. My anger suddenly disappeared. I did not look for the guilty ground crewman — happiness to be alive replaced the lust for revenge.

As I recall, we two crewmen did not receive an explanation. ✕

## CALL TO ARMS

Continued from page 47

the issue will be decided in favor of those who served with honor in El Salvador."

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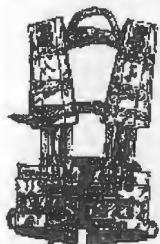
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regarding his scout platoon's combat actions in Somalia, *SOF* has learned the following: When Zimmerman pointed out Sigle's blatant misinformation about U.S. troop performance in ground combat in Somalia, his recommended Meritorious Service Medal was mysteriously downgraded to an Army Commendation Medal, soon after the article was published. Zimmerman was unofficially advised that his Bronze Star recommendation would probably be either downgraded or disapproved due to an angry letter received by his chain-of-command from Sigle's embarrassed staff. Zimmerman, who honorably served his country in uniform for nearly a decade, has elected to leave the Army to pursue a career in law enforcement.

*Soldier Of Fortune* urges you to request your elected representatives to support full combat recognition for the U.S. veterans of the war in El Salvador, *today*. You may obtain names and addresses by contacting either your local post office, or by calling 1-202-224-3121 in Washington, D.C. A postcard is sufficient, but all correspondence must be signed — and please request a formal response from your contacted representative, to ensure they indeed take action. We believe you will agree this is one dragon worth slaying, and with your assistance we'll help Lt. Col. Patricia Sigle see the light. ✕

## ATF GRUDGE RAID

Continued from page 63

Mutz also found in the safe an H&K SP45 pistol with a plastic, horizontal foregrip added. He declared it confiscated, along with an Intratec TEC-22 .22-caliber pistol with foregrip added; both he declared "any other weapon" described under 26 U.S.C. 5861. Also confiscated were 44 silencer kits, a KG9 bolt which the ATF alleged was modified to convert a semiautomatic TEC-9 to full auto, and a replacement shotgun barrel shorter than 18 inches — but not attached to any shotgun.

The charge pertaining to the KG9 semiautomatic bolt, which the ATF said was full auto, was subsequently dropped, as were all charges against defendants other than Tommy Davis.



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At this writing, he still faced trial on four counts pertaining to the silencer kits. The KG9 bolt had been modified by Craze to make it fire full auto, it was learned. But to Craze's obvious frustration, in a videotaped test-firing, his "expert" work made the bolt completely inoperable.

During the search, Davis' adult son, Greg, who is also in the firearms parts and ammunition business, became aware of the ATF raid against S.E.C. and called his father's attorney, McLarty. McLarty told *SOF* he called the business, where the answering machine was monitored by ATF agents. Clearly audible to Davis, his wife and the agents, McLarty identified himself as Davis' attorney and asked to speak with his client. ATF agent Mutz refused to let Davis pick up the phone and exercise his right to legal counsel.

### Evidence C.O.D.?

"Yet the ATF continued to intercept personal and business phone calls throughout most of the day," McLarty told *SOF*. "There is nothing in their search warrant that would allow them to intercept phone calls."

When a United Parcel Service truck arrived at the business to make a delivery, ATF agents confronted the driver, pointing guns at him and demanding that he surrender two C.O.D. packages addressed to S.E.C., Davis said. The driver advised the trigger-happy agents that they would have to sign for receipt of the parcels — and pay the C.O.D., which amounted to several hundred dollars. The ATF elected to have UPS return the parcels.

Mutz and his gang also violated other areas not in the search warrant, Davis said. They searched a barn belonging to an adjacent property owner and forced open the trunks of two vehicles that belonged to a neighbor.

"I'm surprised they didn't search the guy's house next door," an exasperated Davis said. "I was taking notes. I asked them to let me observe the search, to make sure nothing was stolen. I was so afraid they were going to plant something ... illegal machine guns, dope. ... I had a company come in afterward and sweep the place for electronic bugs."

Two of the ATF agents present appeared to be bothered by the way the raid was conducted, Davis noted.

"This big, black agent — one of

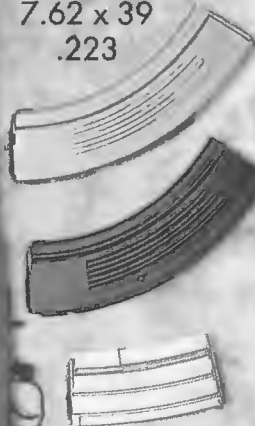
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the guys who was assigned to guard me at the dining room table — kept pacing and looking into other rooms, where they were going through drawers and closets,” Davis said. “He kept mumbling, ‘God, I hate this ... ’”

The other agent, Todd Lockhart, later spoke to Tammy Smith and apologized, telling her Mutz should not have threatened to send her kids to an orphanage.

Catoe, the federal magistrate who issued a search warrant for Mutz, dismissed all but the silencer charges after hearing arguments in a pretrial motion. McLarty said he will appeal Catoe’s refusal to dismiss the silencer charges to a federal district judge.

**ATF Case Falters**

One firearms expert, Wayne F. Daniel, filed an affidavit supporting Davis’ position; i.e., selling parts that could be used to make a silencer is not the same as selling a silencer. Daniel has held various Federal Firearms Licenses since 1978, including those for dealer and manufacturer of Title I and Title II weapons. One of his suppressor designs is patented.

Suppressor parts for air tools “are items than can be purchased openly, across the United States, by anyone of any age with no federal restrictions,” Daniel said in his affidavit. “In my opinion, to be a firearms silencer, the items must meet all of the [legal requirements]. If Congress had not meant for persons to buy parts [with] which to legally fabricate a suppressor, the portion of this [law] regarding a person ‘making’ their own suppressor would have been deleted.

“There are many motorcycle mufflers, air tool suppressors, as well as most any plastic bottle, which will make fairly decent [firearms] suppressors,” Daniel said.

Magistrate Catoe apparently did not give this viewpoint much credence, however. At this writing, that portion of the ATF’s case against Davis appears headed for trial.

“If this ruling is upheld,” said attorney McLarty, “we must begin to wonder if everyone who has 2-liter Coke bottles and duct tape in their home faces the possibility of having their homes ransacked by ATF, of being shackled and incarcerated.”

*Former SOF staffer James L. Pate continues to chronicle and critically*

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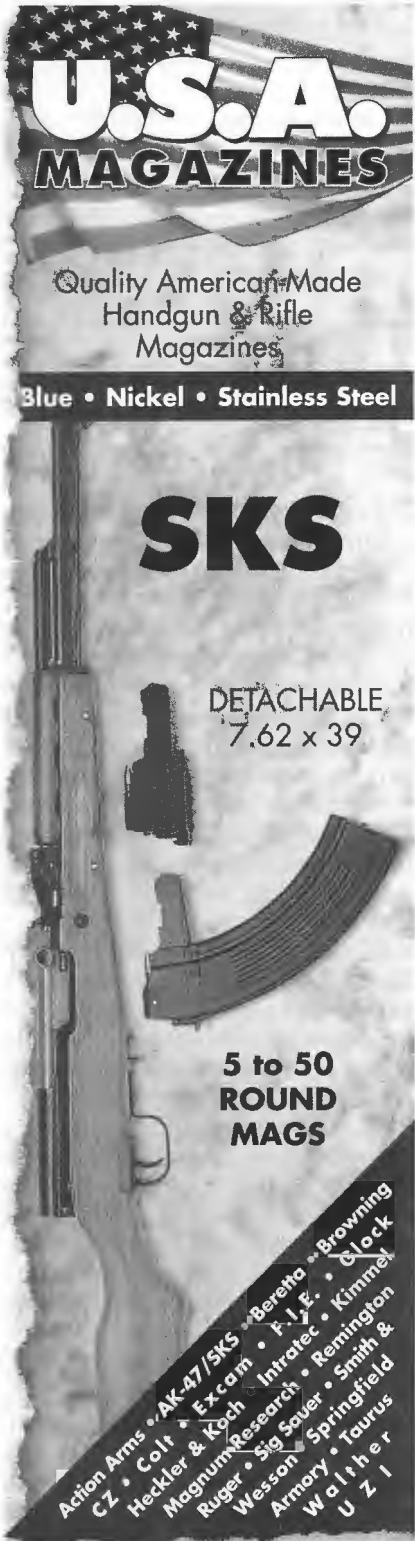
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examine ATF handling of various investigations, including the disastrous Waco incident. ✕

## WACO

Continued from page 41

interrogation room where, as McMahon recalled, "He walked in, his cap still turned around and all red in the face, and I looked at him and said, 'You've been talking to Karen.' He just stormed out, mad as hell."

That night the couple were driven back to Dallas and put on a flight to Pensacola. They were told they would be met by ATF agents who would drive them to Kilpatrick's parents' house. No one met them at the airport; it was 23 March.

Neither McMahon nor Kilpatrick have been charged with any crime. Both were subpoenaed to the federal grand jury in Waco, where they were interviewed by a U.S. attorney's staff, but neither actually testified. They were also questioned by U.S. Senate investigators, none showing any apparent interest in

***"We've tried to be good citizens and all we got from the ATF was to be yelled at, called liars — pissed on. I can't believe what's happening in this country."***

what the pair had to say.

Since then, ATF has queered every attempt by the couple to find employment selling guns. They are broke and heavily in debt as a result of their cooperation with ATF. McMahon developed an ulcer and has lost 40 pounds.

Kilpatrick twice interrupted her *SOF* interview to go to the author's motel bathroom and vomit. "I'm just sick," she apologized. "I get this way every time I talk about the ATF now — every day. I have headaches, diarrhea, vomiting, insomnia. We've tried to be good citizens and all we got from the ATF was to be

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yelled at, called liars — pissed on. I can't believe what's happening in this country."

*James L. Pate is a former SOF Associate Editor and now a freelance writer providing ongoing coverage of the Waco tragedy, its aftermath and inherent ramifications affecting American citizens. ✕*

## COMMAND GUIDANCE

*Continued from page 3*

Treasury wants to withhold this information as part of a cover-up.

Treasury has shown a fondness for statutory exemptions from the need to disclose. Take the example of "Operation Forward Trace." Agents involved in this operation would visit firearms dealers and force the dealer to permit inspection of records. The agents would record the names and addresses of purchasers of certain firearms whom they could identify, by name or neighborhood, as either Latino or African-American. This inspection was clearly illegal under the Gun Control Act. However, when asked for an explanation under the Freedom of Information Act, the agency used the same reasons for refusing to disclose.

By now it is clear that the agency did not have probable cause to believe that a crime had been committed at the time of the raid. It is likely that the raid was conducted, with advance notice to the news media, as a publicity stunt, of the sort BATF is known for staging. One need only read the affidavit, given to justify the search warrant, to see there was not probable cause, and no good faith belief by the agents in charge that there was probable cause. Since the raid had no legal justification, the resultant deaths can be charged to BATF.

In fact, we have not yet been told the caliber or the type of the rounds which killed four and wounded 16 agents. In fact, two weeks after the fire, the compound was bulldozed and fenced off from the public. If I were a betting man, this is where I would put my money. Given the history of BATF, I would wager this is just another piece in a massive cover-up. ✕

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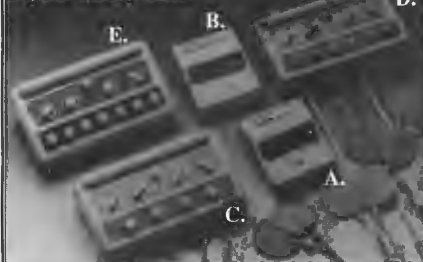
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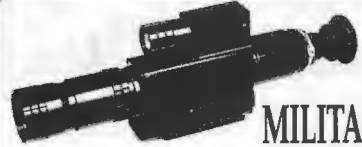
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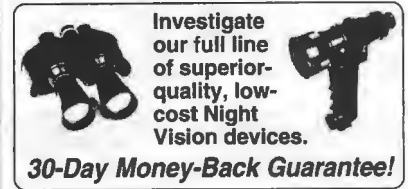


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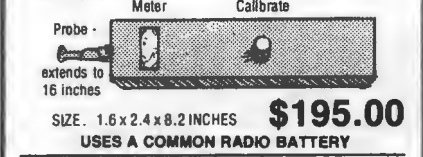
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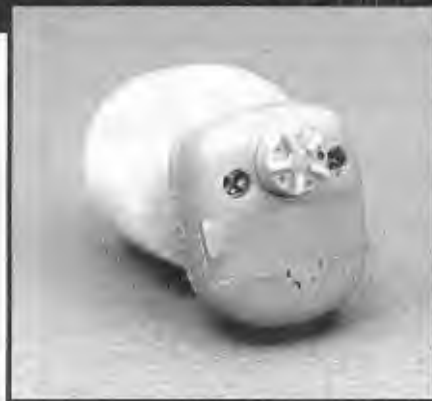
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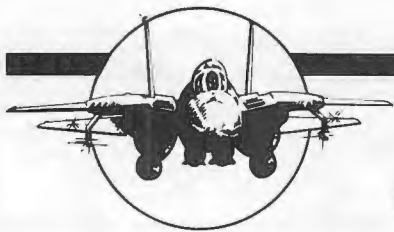
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## Make Love, Not War

by Robert A. Hall

Do you remember Woodstock and the '60s? I sure do. In 1964, if I didn't rub enough linseed oil into the wood stock of my M14 rifle, my Marine Corps DI was likely to whack me upside the head.

Yup, I was part of the other '60s no one talks about — the short-hair, serve-your-country, volunteer-for-Vietnam '60s. When we lit up grass, it was likely to be on a thatched hut hiding a Viet Cong tunnel.

So you can bet I'm grateful to Bill Clinton. I've got my backpack, my torn jeans and my beads ready, and I'm going to Washington for the first big Bosnian anti-war protest. I'm not going to miss out on all the fun — and free love — this time.

I've already got a beard, which is a little too neat, but a few weeks' benign neglect should fix this.

Back when I joined the Marines, John Wayne

always got the cutest girl and no one spit on him when he headed for the sands of Iwo Jima. It was a shock to hit campus after Khe Sanh and find that the most attractive — if not best-groomed — college women considered me a loathsome killer. Fair enough if I'd done much killing, but mostly I kept my head down, operated my radio and tried to come home in one piece. I was lucky — for a Marine, I had an easy tour. Still, I missed out on the free love at the protests and I don't want this to happen again.

Of course I have a wife now, but I'm sure she'll understand that free love is just part of the quest for world peace and nothing personal. I sure hope the freckled redhead from my philosophy class

shows up to reward me for finally seeing the light. She's probably added four kids and 40 pounds but, on the plus side, she probably bathes more frequently, too.

Bosnia is going to be a great war to protest. We won't need any new slogans; we can just recycle some from past demonstrations at places like, oh, Oxford.

*"It's a civil war, and none of our business."*

*"The U.S. can't be the world's policeman."*

*"We should never fight a war without clear goals and the full support of the American people."*

Why should we send better men than Bill Clinton to die in Bosnia? To stop genocide? Then why didn't

we do something about the slaughter in Cambodia, about the Vietnamese boat people or the extermination of the hill tribes — our friends — in Laos? Would Bill have gone back into Southeast Asia in 1976 to stop these events? Were

those folks the wrong color, or just not on television? Or was the killing OK if the communists were doing it?

If we want to feel good about stopping a civil war, there's a nasty one going on in Sri Lanka. How about our responsibility to save lives there? At least it's an island, where our sea power would be more effective.

But is our goal to save lives? For the same amount of tax dollars and a lot less danger of American mothers weeping for dead soldiers, we could go to the aid of dozens of countries where folks are dying of starvation or disease. Of course, many of those victims aren't white and they aren't dying in explosive TV footage, so the media isn't wringing its hands

crying, "Do something!"

It really is delicious irony to see media types knocking the military for being too timid, too dovish, too — if you will — pacifistic on Bosnia. Today's military is mostly led by Vietnam veterans. Our brothers died trying to prevent a genocide back in the '60s and early '70s, while Bill and many in the media supported the people who ultimately carried it out.

Those who have never been to war are hot to send young Marines to the rescue in Eastern Europe — so long as they don't have to go themselves. It's also ironic to see Democrat fingers itching on triggers of the high-tech weapons they condemned Reagan and Bush for buying.

So I plan to be there, right outside Slick Willie's White House, helping that redhead hold up a protest banner reading *Sic 'em Slick, the Oxford Hawk!* I've been practicing burning my business card, which is about the right size (On my 18th birthday, I both registered for the draft and joined the Marine Corps, so I don't have a draft card.).

I hope that Bill, the Artful Dodger, puts the draft back in force, as I've got some clever ideas on how to dodge it that will be fun to try. He plans to take away the "gay" dodge, which is poetic considering that many on his side used it in the '60s. Personally, I'd think it fair if everyone who dodged Vietnam by falsely claiming to be gay wound up in a rat-infested Bosnian bunker.

All in all, it couldn't happen to a nicer commander in chief; I know he'll understand when we shout, "Hell no, we won't go!"

*A former Massachusetts state senator who served five two-year terms, Robert A. Hall now lives in the Greensboro, North Carolina, area with his wife Bonnie, who is not a redhead, and son Dale, who's not quite old enough to go to war. ✕*



Photo: courtesy author



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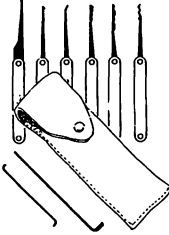
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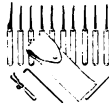
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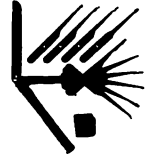
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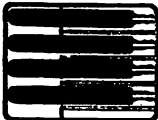
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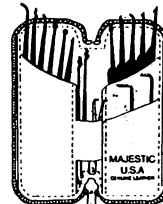
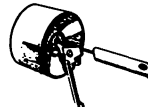
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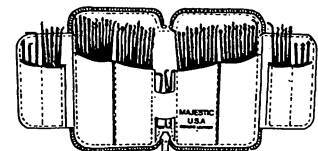
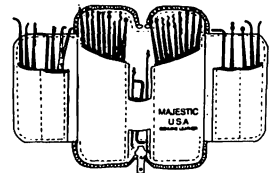


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- **Works for faxes also.**

Normal calls are easily traceable by anyone with even basic equipment, and to make matters worse they stay on record at the phone company for years, allowing any snoop with access to phone company records to discover the number of everyone you've ever called. Any good private detective can get your phone records, which means that virtually anyone in the country can stick his nose into your private business whenever he wants. We can tell you stories of businesses that lost their competitive edge because their competition used these means to retrieve customer phone numbers from their bills and steal key accounts.

If you feel that your privacy is being endangered by this shamefully unsecure system, our service is the permanent solution. You can call **any number in the world** with guaranteed secrecy ... **NO TRACE**, and **NO RECORD**. We put an impenetrable brick wall between your phone and the rest of the world.

- **LOW COST:** Only \$1.99 per minute for any number within the 50 states; only \$3.99 per minute to call any phone in the world outside the U.S.

The privacy invaders are using the latest technology to destroy your personal privacy. Now you have even better technology on **YOUR SIDE**, and you can use it to protect your privacy.

Try it yourself and see! How much is your privacy worth?

**Call 1-900-P-R-E-V-E-N-T** (1-900-773-8368)  
(for domestic calls)

\$1.99 Per minute within the U.S.

**or 1-900-S-T-O-N-E-W-A-L-L** (1-900-786-6392)  
(for international calls)

\$3.99 per minute for any number in the world outside the U.S.

Callers must be 18 years or older. A service of Security Consultants, San Rafael, California.